

Hospital staff back to work; until when?

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Staff in the 32 government hospitals returned to work yesterday afternoon in the sixth day of their strike, following an injunction issued by Jerusalem Labour Court Judge Moshe Guttman, who declared the strike "an unorganized action" since it has no Histadrut backing.

The order against the 13,000 nursing, service and administrative personnel will be in effect until four o'clock this afternoon.

The Finance Ministry spokeswoman told *The Jerusalem Post* that a separate agreement has been reached with the nurses union whereby the nurses will return to work without reference to the court order and their demands will be heard on Thursday at the regular meeting of the Treasury's wage committee.

But Bella Safran, head of the Government Nurses Union, last night denied that such an agreement exists. Safran said that Treasury negotiators and Health Ministry officials were doing "everything they can, and some things that are quite ugly" to split the nurses from service and administrative workers. Safran said that her union stands firmly behind their commitments to the Hospital Workers Union.

Yesterday's injunction also specified that negotiations must continue, with the Civil Service Commissioner and the union leaders due to appear in court this

morning to report on progress. But no progress is expected, since the hospital workers union officials refused to negotiate last night when they found that the nurses union had not been invited.

Ronnie Shalem, head of the Government Hospital Workers Union, said his union was obeying the injunction although the order was issued in the absence of its representatives. Shalem said that the union had not been officially notified of the order to appear in court and thus the court's decision was improper.

But Treasury officials claim that they are only required to notify via the media in such a case.

This morning Shalem will try to convince the Labour Court judge that his union's claims are justified. The union will claim it has explored every avenue in attempting to persuade the Treasury to pay its members the two years retroactive pay increments they say were promised them and to appoint a committee to study the gap between the working conditions of government-employed nurses and those employed by the Histadrut's Kupat Holim hospitals. They will ask Guttman not to extend the court order beyond this afternoon.

Doctors at government hospitals were far from optimistic about the end of the strike. Most seemed to agree with a Health Ministry official who termed the return to work "more in the nature of a reprieve than a victory."



Lebanese President Amin Jemayel waves to journalists as he enters the Beau Rivage Hotel in Lausanne yesterday to attend the Lebanese reconciliation talks. (UPI/telephone)

No quick withdrawal from Lebanon—Shamir

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN
Post Knesset Reporter

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said yesterday that Israeli forces would remain in Southern Lebanon in such numbers and for as long as necessary to ensure the security of the country's northern border.

He made no other reference to reports in the last few days of an intention to redeploy the troops.

Shamir was reporting, in the context of the budget debate, on the activities of the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry.

He said the government is intensifying its cooperation with the local Lebanese population, with the aim of turning over to them the responsibility for maintaining law and order. In this effort, Shamir said, Israel is emphasizing and exploiting

its joint interests with the local population.

Shamir said the Camp David framework accords remain the only agreed basis for solving the question of the status of the Arab residents of Judea, Samaria and Gaza, on the one hand, and for arriving at peace with Jordan, on the other.

When Jordan is ready for peace, Israel would set up no obstacles to negotiations, on the basis of Camp David, with the aim of establishing autonomy and achieving a peace treaty.

"We believe that the Jordanian rulers know well that the PLO constitutes a danger and an obstacle to them and to peace negotiations," Shamir said. "When this obstacle is removed, the way will be open for

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

IDF soldier dies of wounds suffered in Sidon explosion

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — Samal Gabi Gakman, 19, died in Haifa's Rambam Hospital yesterday of wounds sustained when a mine exploded alongside the armoured personnel carrier in which he was riding in Sidon last week. He was buried in the Kiryat Shaul military cemetery in Tel Aviv.

The explosion that cost Gakman his life came after two other explosions in Sidon port on March 4, in which another 10 Israeli Defence Forces soldiers and three Lebanese civilians were injured.

The port has remained closed since then with IDF officers convinced that local fishermen knew the port had been mined and kept silent. IDF sources say the port will remain closed until those responsible for what appears to have been a well-prepared attack are caught together with those who, it is believed, aided them.

Meetings have meanwhile continued between IDF officers and representatives of the town's merchants and the local fishermen, who stressed the harm being done to the population by the port's closure. Fishermen have distributed handbills saying that those who attack the IDF are also attacking Sidon civilians.

Yesterday the IDF permitted the unloading of a ship bringing supplies for refugees in Southern Lebanon.

Meanwhile, in Tibnit, in the central sector, the IDF conducted a search yesterday after explosions were heard in the area. There were no casualties.

A rocket-propelled grenade was fired at an IDF convoy north of Tyre yesterday afternoon. There were no injuries or damages.

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — The leaders of Lebanon's warring factions met in a luxury hotel here yesterday for talks aimed at ending what President Amin Jemayel termed nine years of "insane" war.

In Beirut, meanwhile, at least 20 people were reported killed as artillery exchanges shook both sides of the divided capital. Lebanese Army troops and Christian militiamen traded fire with Shi'ite Moslem and Druse fighters, first across the "green line" bisecting the city and later into more distant residential neighborhoods.

In Lausanne, a spokesman said after the first two-hour session of the conference that the participants had agreed to appoint two commissions to prepare arrangements for a ceasefire.

Michel Smaha, a senior adviser to Jemayel, said the commissions would meet through the night both in Beirut and Lausanne to fix the terms for an "effective" truce.

The commissions, he said, would include representatives of all parties involved in the fighting.

Official sources in Lausanne could not confirm a broadcast by Beirut state radio that the conference participants had agreed on a total ceasefire to take effect throughout Lebanon.

The radio said the group leaders had started to contact their supporters in Beirut to inform them.

Addressing the eight pro-government and opposition groups at the opening of the conference, Jemayel listed principal goals for the meeting:

- "An immediate end to the state of war with a firm commitment and obligation regarding an immediate, stable, total and definite cease-fire."

- "Confirmation of a common position on steps towards uniting and liberating Lebanon."

- "Formation of a government of salvation and national unity that will assume the weight and the responsibilities required to solve the grave problems of the present situation."

Striking a highly emotional note in his 10-minute opening speech, Jemayel recalled "nine years of an insane and continuous war."

"I do not know who was the victor in a war that swept us all ... and which turned out to be a self-destructive war by exploiting internal contradictions."

He said he envisions the future of Lebanon arising from war as one with an "immune sovereignty ... Arab identity ... a free democratic

nation ... and a society based on an adaptable, liberal economic system and the principles of justice, merit, equality and equal opportunities ..."

The opening session was held in Lausanne's Beau Rivage Hotel under stringent security precautions. A six-metre-high bullet-proof screen shielded the huge windows. Police patrolled the hall with dogs before the delegations took their seats at various tables grouped in such a way to have Jemayel sitting at one table, with the pro-government groups at other tables to his right and the opposition groups to his left.

Facing him were the two seats reserved for the Saudi Arabian and Syrian observers.

But the Syrian, the newly nominated First Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam, was not able to arrive in time. Although it was delayed three times, the session (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Moscow promises Syria 'full support'

DAMASCUS (AP). — Geidar Aliyev, first deputy Prime Minister of the Soviet Union, ended three days of talks here with a meeting with Syrian President Hafez Assad yesterday and pledged "full support" to Syria in its fight against "imperialism and Zionism."

A Syrian presidential spokesman said after the meeting, the second in two days, that Aliyev told Assad that "the Soviet leadership attaches the highest importance to the developments in the Middle East, and to Syria's confrontation of the schemes of the imperialists and the Zionists." Aliyev added that "we fully support the policy of Syria, which constitutes one of the most important factors to foil the plots of imperialism in the area."

The spokesman quoted Aliyev, who delivered a letter from the Soviet leadership to Assad, as saying the Soviet Union is "interested in expanding relations with Syria in various fields." He did not identify specific areas for expansion.

Aliyev was expected to fly back to Moscow later yesterday, according to official sources here.

No big surprises in Assad's cabinet

By DAVID BERNSTEIN
Post Middle East Reporter
and Agencies

The new Syrian cabinet formed earlier this week contains no major surprises, with both Prime Minister Abdel-Rauf al-Kassab and Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas retaining their posts.

The one major change involves the elevation of outgoing foreign minister Abdel-Halim Khaddam to one of President Hafez Assad's three deputies, with his place being taken by former information minister Farouk al-Shar'.

In all, there are seven new faces in the 37-member cabinet, including the new information minister, Yassin Rajuh.

The composition of the cabinet would appear to confirm reports from Damascus that the shuffle was routine and does not reflect the apparent power struggle that has been taking place in Syria since Assad's hospitalization with heart trouble late last year.

There have been persistent reports of growing tension, and even some reports of actual fighting in and around Damascus, as Assad's brother Rifaat and his main rivals

for the succession apparently jockeyed for position in the event of the president's death or permanent incapacitation.

The appointment of Rifaat as vice-president for defence and security would appear to indicate that Assad has decided to tilt the balance in favour of his brother.

However, it has been pointed out,

Assad has characteristically refrained from closing other options. He has pointedly left in place two of Rifaat's chief rivals, Tlas and Chief of Staff Hikmat Sheshebi.

The elevation of Khaddam, another potential successor to Assad, to the vice-presidency will serve as a further balance to Rifaat's ambitions.

U.S. killer's execution won't be televised

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP). — The Texas Board of Corrections yesterday refused to allow the execution of James David Autry to be televised, rejecting arguments that the public should have the right to watch a convicted murderer die.

The board voted 8-0 against changing state guidelines to allow cameras into the death chamber to record Autry's execution by lethal injection, scheduled before sunrise tomorrow.

"I have too many concerns about this — not just the propriety and decency of it, but the potential that it could have an effect on the death penalty itself," said board chairman Robert Gunn, who will be one of two witnesses to the execution if it is not stopped on court appeals.

Board member Pete Cortez, who attended the 1982 execution of Charlie Brooks, said "after witnessing that execution, I'm not at all ready to favour putting it on television."

Autry, 29, had asked that his execution be televised and the state attorney general called the idea "logical."

The inmate, who escaped execution in October when he was granted a stay with only 30 minutes to spare, has maintained his innocence in the 1980 slaying of Shirley Drouet, a mother of five. But he argued that if the punishment is to be carried out, the public should be allowed to watch to learn what executions are like.

Cool relations with Cairo will continue, Patt asserts

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

No thaw in Israeli-Egyptian relations can be expected "in the coming months, at least," Industry and Trade Minister Gideon Patt said yesterday.

Patt, who last week participated in the opening of the Cairo International Fair at the invitation of the Egyptian government, told *The Jerusalem Post*: "My 12 hours of talks with cabinet ministers were positive and held in a friendly atmosphere. However, it is clear that our two countries disagree on a basic point: whether trade relations should be linked to the wider

political disagreements, such as Lebanon, Taba and the control of the Coptic Church in the Old City of Jerusalem."

"Yet, they understand our problem of being unable to form a dependable local force in South Lebanon to ensure security for the Galilee and believe us when we say we want to get our troops out of Lebanon as soon as possible. Nevertheless, I don't expect a softening in their position in the coming months, at least," he said.

While in Cairo, Patt held talks with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali, former prime minister

Mustafa Khalil and Economics Minister Mustafa Said.

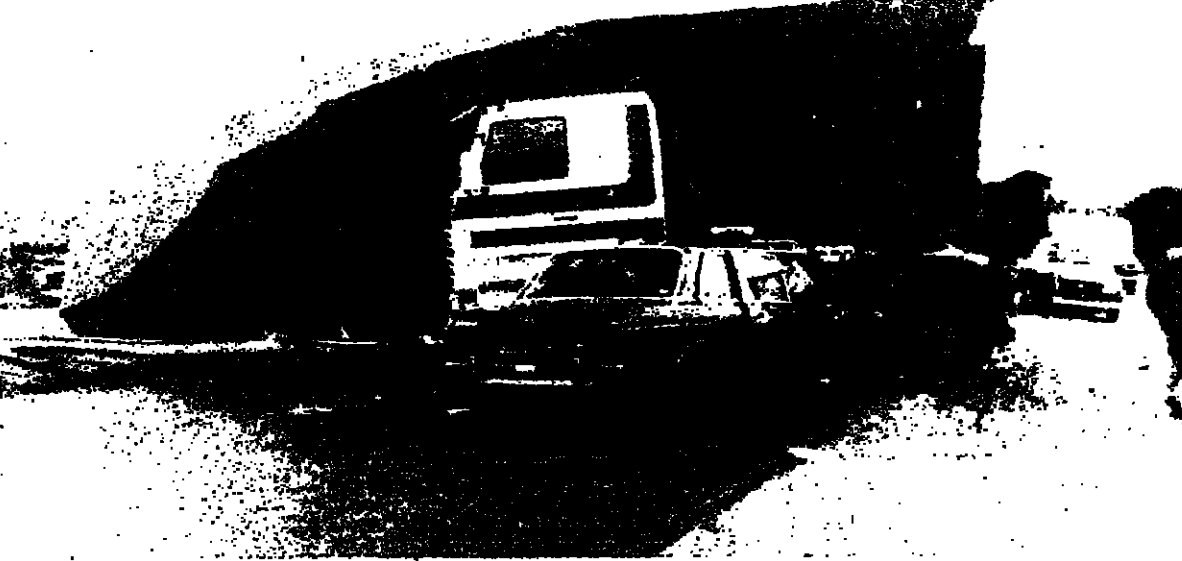
A result of Cairo's "linkage" of its trade policy with Israel with international politics is that Israeli exports to Egypt last year reached only \$12.5m., down from \$25m. the year before. On the other hand, Israeli imports from Egypt remained steady — at \$5m. annually.

Patt noted what he describes as "economic absurdities" in Cairo's limitation on imports from Israel. "We used to sell them lots of breeding chicks — at 30.5 cents each. Now, as they shun our exports, they are paying 55 cents each, in Belgium and Holland. What is

more, our chicks showed only a 4 per cent mortality rate en route to Egypt. The Benelux birds show a 30 to 40 per cent dead-on-delivery rate."

"Or, take chicken coops. They used to buy them from us. Now they get them from a British firm which imports them from Israel!"

According to Patt, the Egyptian national elections scheduled for May 27 may be a factor in Cairo's present coolness towards Israel. "Among the slogans being bandied about by the opposition now is that (President Hosni) Mubarak and his government are too friendly towards Israel," Patt observed.



A semi-trailer blocks the Tel Aviv-Haifa expressway yesterday after colliding with a north-bound taxi, killing one man and injuring five others. The road was closed for some hours until the truck was removed. (Yariv Levin)

2 officers, two civilians die in road crashes

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ and Itim

Two Israel Defence Forces officers were killed and three medical corpsmen injured yesterday in two related road accidents in the north.

In other road accidents two men were killed and eight people injured, four of them seriously.

Seren Haviv Halfon, 25, an ordinance officer in Northern Command, crashed his car into the back of a truck on the Golan-Amiad road in Galilee yesterday morning. An Israel Defence Forces ambulance which rushed to the scene overturned close by, killing Seren Yigal Tessler, 27, the doctor on duty, and injuring three medics travelling with him. Tessler was buried yesterday afternoon in Tel Aviv's Kiryat Shaul military cemetery.

Halfon, evacuated to Rambam Hospital by helicopter, died of his injuries. He will be buried today in the military section of the Hadera cemetery.

A 35-year-old Petah Tikva man, Reuven Grossman, was killed yesterday when the taxi he was travelling in was hit head-on by a semi-trailer truck.

The truck, driven by a member of Kibbutz Yagur, was travelling south on the Haifa-Tel Aviv expressway when it suddenly veered left, crashed through the central barrier and into a north-bound taxi near the Michmoret junction. Five of those in the taxi, including the driver, were injured, four of them seriously. The truck driver, who was unhurt, told the police that his sharp turn resulted from a tire blow-out. But the police said they have found no evidence to support this.

And in Gaza, a 25-year-old Khan Yunis man was killed when the car he was driving skidded as it turned onto a bridge straddling the wadi south of the town and fell into the stream-bed. Three of his passengers were hospitalized in Gaza.

Super Tuesday: Showdown for Hart and Mondale

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — Front-runners Walter Mondale and Gary Hart campaigned in southern U.S. states yesterday, on the eve of a showdown that could sort out the volatile race for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Former vice-president Mondale was struggling to slow Hart's sudden surge and regain an edge before today's primary elections or Democratic caucuses (meetings) in nine states.

At stake in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Massachusetts, Washington State, Nevada, Oklahoma, Rhode Island and Hawaii are 505 of the 3,933 delegates to the Democrats' July nominating convention.

The "Super Tuesday" voting will be a test of Hart's unexpected surge forward in the Democratic race to

be President Reagan's opponent on November 6. The Colorado senator has already defeated the highly favoured Mondale in the New Hampshire and Vermont primaries and in the Wyoming and Maine caucuses.

Mondale, once regarded as a certainty for the nomination, has now declared himself the underdog and pledged "to fight like hell" in the South.

Today's voting in the southern states is likely to be close. Polls show Hart ahead in Florida and Mondale leading in Georgia and Alabama, although margins are tight.

And it is now or never for others still in the Democratic race, Ohio Senator John Glenn, astronaut and political centrist, has

faded badly and must obtain a good showing if he is to be considered a serious contender.

Black civil right leader Jesse Jackson will have his first real opportunity to prove that he is the political leader for minority groups.

Blacks comprise more than 25 per cent of the populations of Alabama and Georgia.

Former senator George McGovern has focused on Massachusetts and says he will drop out of the race unless he does well.

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IN THE KNESSET/

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Data on 500,000 people in nat'l police computer

The Knesset State Control Committee learned yesterday that the computer at National Police Headquarters, which stores data on criminal files, contains cards on 500,000 persons, each one of whom was involved in one or more crimes.

The committee also learned of faulty communication between the individual police stations and the computer office. A check of 1,650 criminal data cards at stations showed that 373 of them had not been recorded, while 250 cards on criminal files which had been closed were still recorded as open in the computer.

Nitzav (commander) Yehzekel Carthy, head of the police investigations division, said that under a recently passed law, the police are obliged to give every citizen the data on his criminal record.

The delay in stations feeding material to the central computer ranges between one and 10 months, the committee was told.

According to the police, part of the delay in the computer being notified of court judgements is due to the fact that the courts have no computer terminals.

State Comptroller Yitzhak Tunk told the Knesset committee that when a suspect already has a suspended sentence, of which the judge is not aware because the suspended sentence is not stored in the computer, the law is at a disadvantage.

Conversely, Tunk said, the citizen is liable to be at a disadvantage when the police notify one of the state agencies entitled to receive data about him that he is a suspect or has been charged, when in fact the file may have already been closed or he may have been acquitted.

Unlicensed cable TV

The Communications Ministry is planning a large-scale swoop on unlicensed cable TV networks, the Knesset Economic Committee was told by Zvi Zilker, the ministry director-general.

Representatives of the cinema and video trade, and a lawyer handling their affairs, Avner Manusovitch, reported on cases of violence, extortion and protection rackets, as well as installation of cable TV systems in a manner dangerous to life and limb, in various parts of the country. They said they knew of a former policeman and a present employee of the ministry who ran unlicensed cable TV networks.

Committee chairman Gad Ya'acobi and his colleagues made these representatives undertake to give the police the relevant

evidence to back up their charges.

Yoram Bar-Sela, the deputy attorney-general, said that a committee he headed had submitted comprehensive licensing recommendations in September 1982.

Tai-Nitzav (deputy commander) Yoram Gonen, deputy head of the police investigations division, said the problem was an economic one and not a criminal one. But complaints about illegal activities would be dealt with, Gonen promised, adding that the rest was up to the Communications Ministry.

Kulturkampf

The Sabbath is one of the foundations of life in Israel and the state must preserve its special nature, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said.

Replying to the debate on the budgets of the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry, Shamir said that everyone who is interested in Israel's welfare should do his utmost to avoid a kulturkampf (culture war).

Israel's interests, and its security in particular, call for greater unity between political parties and between various groups of the population, Shamir said.

He was commenting specifically on the remarks of Rabbi Shmuel Halperin (Agudat Yisrael), denouncing the arrest of the chief rabbi of Petah Tikva on the Sabbath.

Disabled Veteran

Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor appointed Ariel Weinstein (Likud-Liberals) to probe the case of the disabled veteran who drove into the Knesset area and reached the MKs' entrance unhindered last week, despite the gate and the guards.

Weinstein, who is a reserve sgan aluf (lieutenant-colonel) in the IDF, will have assistance from the police and the security services, and will have to decide who if anybody was at fault in the gate-crashing episode and what should be done to prevent recurrence of the incident.

(Yossi Karon, 25, of Beit Shemesh, drove into the Knesset area to press his claims that rehabilitation officials are disregarding his condition.)

Deputy speakers

The Knesset elected two additional deputy speakers — Yigal Cohen (Likud-La'am) and Naftali Feder (Alignment-Mapam). Up to now the Tenth Knesset has managed with only two deputy speakers, Moshe Shahal (Alignment-Labour) and Meir Cohen-Avidov (Likud-Herut). Some previous Knessets have had as many as six deputy speakers.

Dutch restitution office

moving from J'lem to Tel Aviv

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The last vestige of an official Dutch representation in Jerusalem will be gone by July 1 when the Netherlands Foreign Ministry closes the restitution office here because of budget cuts.

The Netherlands was the last European country to move its embassy from the capital to Tel Aviv after the passage of the Jerusalem Law in 1980. However, at the request of Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the Dutch retained two smaller consular offices in the three-story Rehov Balfour residence.

One office was an Information Centre and the other was an office for restitution to victims of the German and Japanese occupations.

That office handled about 2,500 cases since it was established in 1971. The information office was closed about six months ago.

The recent Dutch government decision to trim its entire civil service by 2 per cent a year forced that country's Foreign Ministry to seek ways to consolidate existing representations.

The restitution office will move to the embassy in Beit Asia, Tel Aviv, by July 1, and the property's lease will revert back to the Custodian of Absentees' Property.

Meanwhile, a group of non-Jewish Dutch citizens, members of the Israel Comité Netherlands, have protested against the decision to shut the information office.

SOUTHERN POWER. — The Electric Corporation has announced the recent opening of a substation in Eilat, meant to expand capacity and improve the supply of electricity to the Red Sea port. It took two years to build and cost \$2 million.

OUTPOST. — A Nahal outpost, Mui Nevo, will today celebrate its establishment alongside the Dead Sea some five kilometres from Jericho. The outpost is one of a chain of settlements in the area associated with the United Kibbutz Movement.

American Secretary of Labour Visits Laniado Hospital in Netanya



During the visit of American Secretary of Labor, Mr. Raymond Donovan, to Laniado Hospital in Netanya, Dr. Yeakov Tendler, the hospital's Medical Director, announced that the hospital is in the process of purchasing new and advanced medical equipment through contributions received from private donors in Israel and abroad. The departments which are to benefit from this equipment are: Obstetrics, Pre-natal Baby Unit and the Operating Theatre serving the Departments of Surgery and Gynecology.

During the course of the Secretary's visit, he was welcomed by the Administrative Director, Mr. Gershon Lipder, and members of the medical staff. The distinguished guest was given a guided tour of the department of Surgery and Pediatrics. The Board of Directors presented Mr. Donovan with a framed original copy of the "Founding Principles" of the Hospital.

Laniado is a 150 bed General Community Hospital, and serves the entire Netanya area.

(Communicated)



Habimah actors present scenes from *Sanger*, a play about drug use, before the Knesset Education Committee yesterday.

MK's 'legal hashish' proposal stirs debate

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Drug use highlighted by last week's arrest of two suspected teenage drug dealers in two of Israel's most prestigious high schools, was the subject of an open discussion yesterday at the Knesset Education Committee.

Committee chairman Pinhas Goldstein (Likud) told committee members, school principals, a handful of high-school students and the cast of Habimah's *Sanger*, a play concerning drugs, that those who advocate the legalization of hashish should realize that "theft, prostitution, murder and drugs are irrevocably linked."

This was in reference to proposals during the discussion by Likud MK Benny Shalit that hashish be made legal and cheap to break the back of

organized crime and to free the police to combat the sale of hard drugs such as morphine and heroin.

Shalit proposed that it would be easier to help those with drug problems if they were free to approach and be approached by social workers and psychologists without fear of legal reprisal. He suggested a government-run drug sales centre and observation service.

Deputy Attorney-General Yehudit Karp objected to Shalit's proposals and suggested that he re-examine his basic information regarding hashish before proceeding with the idea. Karp urged greater cooperation between the schools, police and the Education Ministry.

Habimah players presented three scenes from *Sanger* depicting the gradual destruction of a young

basketball player. Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor urged that means be found to use the play as a weapon to immunize Israeli youth against what he termed "a plague."

Other speakers included high-school principals, a psychologist and two pupils from Herzliya Gymnasium in Tel Aviv who said that the entire matter is being exaggerated. One pupil, Myra, said the committee is "doing an injustice to Israeli youth by assuming that the problem is a serious one."

The subject of drug use has been in the spotlight since last week when police arrested a 17-year-old pupil in the Gymnasium High School in Rehavia on suspicion of buying hashish and selling it to other pupils. Another youth was arrested in Tel Aviv for selling hashish to classmates at the Herzliya Gymnasium.

Yad Vashem to honour anti-Nazi fighters

Jerusalem Post Staff

Three former members of a German anti-Nazi underground which operated in Cologne during World War II are to be honoured this morning at tree-planting ceremonies at Jerusalem's Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Authority, Yad Vashem.

Jean Julich, the late Dr. Michael Jovy and the late Bartholomaeus Schink belonged to a group known as the Edelweiss Pirates, which was formed by former members of two partisan scouting movements, the Bundische Jugend and the Wander Jugend.

The Edelweiss Pirates ran a safe-

house in Cologne, in which they gave shelter to many Jews and others fleeing Nazi persecution. The group also stockpiled weapons in the belief that they could eventually overthrow Hitler.

In September 1941, Jovy was arrested, convicted of anti-government activities and sent to a forced labour camp. While there he maintained contact with the group and continued to help direct its activities, until he managed to escape while being transferred to another camp in 1944.

In October 1944, the Gestapo raided the Cologne safe-house. The Edelweiss Pirates fought back, but were eventually defeated. The sur-

vivors of the battle were arrested. Julich, Jovy and Schink have been awarded Yad Vashem's Medalion of Honour and the right to have trees planted in their names in the Avenue of Righteous Gentiles. Julich, who is here with a West German delegation participating in a Hebrew University symposium on the anti-Nazi opposition will be awarded his medalion and plant his own tree today.

Schink's sister will receive his medalion and plant a tree in his memory. Jovy, who received his medalion last November while serving as a German envoy in Rome, died two months ago. A tree will be planted in his honour.

2 Beersheba men get life for murder

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Two local residents, Yosef Shriki and Yehuda Taib, both 22, yesterday were sentenced to life in prison by the local district court for the murder last August of Nissim Belash.

The bloody body of Belash, a known drug addict and pusher, was found in a public park near his home here last August 3, when the lights went on again after a 90-minute city-wide blackout. He had been repeatedly stabbed.

Shriki and Taib were arrested that night. Each tried to establish an alibi — Taib by denying that he

knew Shriki and Shriki by pressuring his 16-year-old girlfriend, Iris Biton, to lie. The court also found the two men guilty of threatening witnesses.

Evelyn Peretz, Belash's girlfriend, identified both men as known to Belash. She also told police that several days before the murder, Shriki had threatened to "make a mess" of Belash if he did not stop selling drugs immediately.

When sentence was pronounced, Shriki and Taib immediately lashed out at everyone in sight, causing a great commotion until policemen arrived to take them away.

Fish eluding nets of Kinneret fishermen

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TIBERIAS. — The 350 families who make their living from the fish they catch in Lake Kinneret want the government to grant them the same compensation granted to farmers for natural disasters. They argue that they face financial ruin because of this year's drought.

Albert Koby, of the local fishermen's committee, yesterday cabled Agriculture Minister Pessah Grupper demanding compensation. Koby told *The Jerusalem Post* that

in a normal year the fish are driven by storms sweeping the lake to concentrate in spots where the fishermen await them. With no storms this year, the fish are spread around the lake, peacefully eluding the nets, he said.

In addition, rivers feeding the lake from the surrounding hills have dried up and the fish, which normally gather near the clear stream water, have forsaken these spots, leaving the fishermen's nets empty, Koby said.

Terrorist suspect came as tourist from Lebanon

The man suspected of planting the two grenades which exploded on Jerusalem's Jaffa Road two weeks ago entered the country legally as a tourist from Lebanon, police sources said. Twenty-one persons were wounded in the blast.

The man, 35, crossed the Rosh Hanikra checkpoint and passed the routine procedures undergone by residents of Lebanon who wish to visit Israel. Several days after entering the

country, he apparently received the two Soviet-made grenades from a local contact in Jerusalem.

The suspect himself was wounded in the explosion and, despite serious wounds in his back and stomach, he tried to escape from Bikur Holim Hospital. His escape attempt brought him to the attention of investigators, who are now trying to discover who supplied him with the grenades. (Itm)

Grupper seeks to curb waste by uniting export companies

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Agriculture Minister Pessah Grupper has decided to work towards uniting all the agricultural export companies into a single company. Speaking at a meeting of Mekorot water company workers here, yesterday, he explained that this would save money.

Grupper's plan would establish an office in each country to handle Israeli produce, while one body in Israel would handle shipment. The Citrus Marketing Board, Agrexco and Bilrid, all operate separately now.

Grupper said a committee representing all the agricultural export organizations is meeting to finalize plans. A year ago two Agrexco offices abroad were united

with CMB offices on an experimental basis.

Grupper cited the plan as an example of his efforts to streamline agricultural companies and make them more competitive. The same guidelines, he said, were behind the amalgamation of Mekorot's subsidiary Binui Uphitua with Mekorot.

Meanwhile, the executive committee of the CMB learned yesterday from general manager Dan Paldi that the CMB has begun a massive sales promotion campaign costing hundreds of thousands of dollars in an effort to sell stocks of several million crates of Shamouti oranges.

Paldi told *The Jerusalem Post* that Spain and Morocco also have large orange stocks and are selling them at dumping prices.

Tel Aviv will spend \$100,000 on 75th anniversary events

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Celebrations and other events marking Tel Aviv's 75th anniversary will begin next month, but the organizers will have to get along with a budget of \$100,000 instead of the million dollars originally budgeted, Mayor Shlomo Lahat said yesterday.

The Tel Aviv Development Foundation will raise contributions to finance 70 per cent of the budget, while the city will put up the remaining 30 per cent, he said. Lahat noted that the budget was reduced because of the economic situation.

Lahat blasted the Education and Culture Ministry, which is organizing the Israel Festival in Jerusalem, for ignoring the 75th anniversary of the first Jewish city. "Our request to the ministry to make some reference to Tel Aviv in the festival, which is taking place during this historical year, went unheeded," he said.

Deputy Mayor Natan Wolloch, head of the city's youth, culture and sports section is in charge of the anniversary events. He said the Cameri and Habima Theatres and the Bat-Sheva Dance Troupe will stage special performances; the Tel Aviv Literature and Art Foundation will publish books and albums, and schools, entrances to the city and institutions will be decorated in the spirit of the 75th anniversary.

Wolloch said there will be a bicycle race, a special anniversary stamp will be issued, and a pilgrimage to the graves of the city's founding fathers will be held. In addition, city hall will hold a reception for residents and Beth Hatefutsoth will admit residents free. There will be a week of movies reflecting "Tel Aviv in the mirror of cinema" at the Cinematheque. Ten exhibitions, including paintings by Nahum Gutman, children's drawings and photographs of Tel Aviv will be prepared by the Tel Aviv Museum and the city's libraries' department.

Kiryat Ata workers to strike for unpaid wages

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Kiryat Ata's 700 municipal employees are due to start an indefinite strike today because the local authority cannot pay their wages.

The employees, who have not received their February salaries, say all services, including the town's schools and kindergartens, will be affected. They plan to hold a mass rally outside the town hall today at noon.

Kiryat Ata Mayor Yitzhak Ben-

Daniel said there was no money to pay the wages and banks had refused to give any more loans. He said the town was paying \$300,000 a day in interest on outstanding loans and the municipality's total deficit now stood at \$220 million.

The municipality also has unpaid electric bills, and has not paid its suppliers since October, he said.

Ben-Daniel said he had asked the Interior Ministry for financial assistance, but as yet, had received no reply.

Galilee crime up 11%

Jerusalem Post Reporter

ACRE. — The crime rate in Galilee rose by 11 per cent in 1983 compared with the previous year, Galilee district police commander Nitzav Mishne Meir Sadeh said yesterday.

Sadeh told a press conference that in 1983, some 15,000 crimes were reported. He said police managed to solve 38 per cent of the crimes committed in the area.

Sadeh said offences concerning hard drugs and drug-smuggling from Lebanon rose by 45 per cent.

5 Nigerians to attend Pilgrimage '84 meeting

A delegation of five Nigerians is due to arrive in Israel today to participate in the Pilgrimage '84 international meet being organized by the Tourism Ministry. Israel has no diplomatic relations with Nigeria.

Opening in Jerusalem, the congress will be attended by 150 clerics, journalists and wholesale travel agents specializing in pilgrimages.

IMMIGRANTS. — Last month 1,373 immigrants arrived in Israel, a 13 per cent increase over January 1984 and a 30 per cent increase over February 1983.

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WORLD NEWS

Hundreds reported dead in recent Gulf fighting

BAHRAIN (Reuters). — Iraq said yesterday it had defeated an Iranian attack on the southern Gulf War front as Tehran reported sending abroad for treatment more troops it said were victims of chemical warfare.

An Iraqi military communiqué said its troops early yesterday found the bodies of 314 Iranians after a battle lasting nearly nine hours east of the southern port city of Basra. The communiqué said another 843 Iranians were killed on Sunday in the same sector, while the Iraqis also lost large numbers wounded and captured. No Iraqi losses were given.

Tehran Radio said 150 Iraqis were killed in an Iranian advance on the southern front on Sunday night. It was not clear whether this was the attack east of Basra. The radio also reported that another 11 Iranian soldiers it said were suffering the effects of Iraqi chemical attacks were flown to Europe for treatment, five to Switzerland and three each to France and Britain. Ten days ago, Iran flew 10 soldiers to Vienna and five to Stockholm for treatment. In Vienna, the doctor treating the

Iranians, Herbert Mandel, said yesterday three had died from the effects of mustard gas poisoning. Three of the five Iraqis in the Swedish capital have also died. In The Hague, a spokesman for the Dutch Foreign Ministry said the Netherlands was ready to accept Iranian casualties for treatment at Tcheran's request. The Iraqi government has denied using chemical weapons, and diplomats in Baghdad said it was irritated and perplexed by the international publicity at a time it is seeking world support to force Iran to accept a ceasefire.

Meanwhile in Riyadh, the foreign ministers of the six countries facing Iran across the Gulf ended two days of talks on Sunday by renewing their support for Iraq in the 41-month-old war. Qatar's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Ahmed Bin Seif al-Thani, told reporters after the closing session their stance was in line with an Arab Summit resolution which called for support for any Arab nation facing aggression. He was referring to a decision adopted by Arab leaders at their last meeting in Morocco in September 1982.

Egyptian court impounds controversial Sadat film

CAIRO (AP). — An Egyptian court yesterday impounded all available copies of a controversial U.S.-made film on the life of the late president Anwar Sadat until it reaches a decision on a lawsuit against the movie's producers.

Presiding Judge Mohammed Fathi Khalil, who ordered the impoundment, also slapped a two-year prison term on spectator Arafat Shagha for insulting the court during an outburst in last Tuesday's opening session of the trial. During the second day of the trial, Khalil said the court would view the film during a closed session Saturday, and that lawyers for the prosecution and officials of Columbia Pictures would be allowed to present arguments.

The Egyptian Movie Syndicate filed suit in misdemeanor court against Columbia Pictures, charging that the made-for-television film was "damaging and distorting" to Egyptian history. The suit seeks two-year prison terms for six individuals, including Columbia chairman Patrick Williamson, the producers, writers and director. Last month the Ministry of Culture banned all Columbia Pictures productions from Egyptian



Actor Lou Gossett portrays Sadat in the Columbia film.

movie houses. President Hosni Mubarak said in a television interview that the film, starring Lou Gossett in the title role, included factual errors and was disrespectful of Egyptian history. The film, entitled *Sadat*, has not been shown in Egyptian movie houses or on state television. Many Egyptians have private prints, and it appeared the judge's order would not prevent owners of those copies from keeping them in circulation.

Innocent man freed after 34 years

TAKAMATSU, Japan (Reuters). — An innocent man who spent 34 years behind bars in Japan on a murder charge was given his freedom yesterday. A court here found Shigeyoshi Taniguchi, 53, not guilty of a 1950 murder conviction. Police arrested Taniguchi in a village on the southwest island of Shikoku when he was 19, a court official said. While in custody he confessed to

stabbing a rice dealer and was sentenced to death by hanging two years later. But from the start of his trial Taniguchi denied the charge, saying investigators forced him to confess. Japan's Supreme Court called for a retrial in 1976. At the Takamatsu District Court yesterday, Judge Kiyoshi Furuichi said confessions and other prosecution evidence did not adequately support the conviction.

Sudanese rebels free pregnant woman

NAIROBI (Reuters). — A pregnant West German woman and her 18-month-old son were freed in Ethiopia yesterday after being held for one month by southern Sudanese rebels, diplomats said. Ursula Morson, who is due to give birth in a few days, and her son Lloyd were safe and well and expected to travel tomorrow to Nairobi, their former home. Their exact whereabouts were not known but an announcement from the Ethiopian authorities was

expected soon, the diplomats said. Morson, her son, and husband Gwynne were abducted in southern Sudan on February 10 together with two French and British technicians by secessionist rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army. The rebels said they would hand Morson and her child over to Ethiopia as a humanitarian gesture but would keep the other hostages until unspecified demands had been met.

Nearly 90,000 British miners lay down tools

LONDON (Reuters). — Nearly half of Britain's 180,000 miners refused to work yesterday as a strike against planned job cuts began in some big coalfields, spokesmen for the unions and the state coal board said. In Yorkshire, by far the biggest coalfield producing a quarter of Britain's coal, 56,000 men were on strike. The picture was the same in the smaller Durham field, where miners voted by more than two to one to down tools. But in three important central England districts miners continued to work, pending local ballots on the strike later this week. In South Wales, traditionally a

militant region, confusion reigned after miners voted against their leaders' strike call. The strikes were called after the board, which is struggling to trim heavy losses, announced plans to cut the work force by 20,000 and reduce capacity this year.

BIG WINNERS. — Velyn Buma, a 67-year-old grandmother who longs to see the Netherlands when the tulips are in bloom, is one of seven people who held winning tickets drawn Saturday for an \$18.2 million Massachusetts State Lottery prize, the largest jackpot ever in North America.

90,000 forced to undergo sterilization in central India

NEW DELHI (AP). — The forced sterilization campaign of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's notorious 1975-77 emergency rule has been revived in central India, the country's largest English-language daily said yesterday. About 90,000 people so far have been sterilized this year in Madhya Pradesh, India's largest state, *The Indian Express* said. The Madhya Pradesh state government has instructed all its employees, including doctors and teachers, to "motivate" a fixed number of people to undergo sterilization operations. Junior government employees have to bring 15 people each for sterilization in a year, district health officers 120 people, family planning workers 38 people, medical science professors 60 people and doctors 48 people, the newspaper quoted a

government circular as saying. Employees who do not fulfill their individual targets are liable to be suspended or transferred, the paper said. The state medical officers association threatened to organize a strike if disciplinary action against suspended doctors is not dropped. A local Hindi-language daily reported that an unmarried disabled man was forcibly sterilized in the remote town of Itarsi. *The Express* said there have been many other cases of sterilization excesses by officials trying to fulfill their "quotas." During Gandhi's emergency rule in 1975-77, more than six million people were rounded up in police raids and forced to undergo sterilization operations. The sterilization campaign was seen as the principal cause of Gandhi's defeat in the March 1977 parliamentary elections.

NEWS IN BRIEF

1,112 international terror incidents in 1983, paper says.
LONDON (AP). — The world saw 1,112 incidents of international terrorism last year, *The Times* of London reported yesterday. The scourge has been steadily increasing since it was ushered in with the deaths of Israeli athletes kidnapped by Palestinians at the Munich Olympic games in West Germany in 1972, *The Times* said. There were 269 separate incidents by the end of that year. The *Times* defined international terrorism as nationals of one country operating on foreign soil, kidnappings, sieges, assassinations and bomb explosions.

'Large-scale E. German emigration will go on'
LEIPZIG (Reuters). — East Germany is expected to go on allowing emigration on an unusually large scale, West German politicians said after meeting East German head of state Erich Honecker. Economy Minister Otto Lamsdorff and Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss told journalists after separate meetings with Honecker on Sunday that they did not get the impression that East Germany might revert to a more restrictive policy. East Germany is now allowing 100 or more people a day to leave for the West, and many more of them are young people than was formerly the case.

Lots of ghosts seen in Britain, survey shows
LONDON (AP). — Almost every person who took part in a British survey about the supernatural claimed to have seen a ghost and most said they had seen into the future and believed they were telepathic, a magazine for women reported yesterday. The monthly *Hers*, which has a circulation of around 100,000, said 93 per cent of its readers who responded to a questionnaire claimed to have seen one ghost or more, mostly in their own homes. Eighty-two per cent said they had seen into the future, 81 per cent believed they were telepathic and 56 per cent were certain they had lived before. Nobody reported any evil encounters with spirits although one woman in Dorset, southwest England, said she had been frightened by a poltergeist after finding a U.S. serviceman's dog-tag buried in the garden.

Phone company takes woman's word on \$109,505 bill
BEDFORD, New York (AP). — Jane Landenberger stayed calm when the operator told her she had a \$109,505 telephone bill. But when she heard it would take a truck to deliver it, "that's what made me think... I really have got a big bill." What the truck dropped off, Landenberger said Sunday, were five bundles — 2,578 pages in all — describing calls to and from places all over the world, all charged to her telephone credit card. "They were from all over, to all over," she said, "Libya, England, Japan — you name it." Just who was making the calls is unclear, but New York Telephone Co. accepted Landenberger's word that it wasn't her. The company also changed her credit card number, and declared the old one invalid, which stopped the calls.

Sports

KO mystery

By PAUL KOHN

TEL AVIV. — Both Maccabi Jaffa and Hakoah Ramat Gan will demand of the Football Association that their team be awarded a win in the National League soccer match which was stopped by the referee in the 80th minute in Jaffa last Saturday.

Yair Tillinger, one of soccer's more controversial referees, sent the teams off the field after Hakoah's goalkeeper Shlomo Nordman was punched in the face by a Maccabi Jaffa official, El Feldman, who works in the youth department of Maccabi Jaffa. Maccabi Jaffa officials will claim at the F.A. Disciplinary Committee's hearing this week that Nordman was to blame because he ran at Feldman beyond the actual pitch. But the Jaffa club did nothing to obtain the release of Feldman from police detention, and it was paradoxically a Hakoah official, Moshe Francis, who got Feldman freed by promising personal bail. Police also detained Nordman, 24, for assaulting a referee, and he was released from hospital — while still in his goalkeeper clothing. Both Nordman and Feldman were released through the intervention of Francis at 2:30 a.m. The Hakoah men drove Feldman to his home in Ramat Gan. Three other Hakoah players were attacked in Jaffa after the game. Feldman from a passing police was caught one of the attackers and arrested him. Last Saturday the two clubs were on friendly relations. Hakoah recently having loaned to Maccabi Jaffa two of its players.

Crucial contest

By DON GOULD

TEL AVIV. — Hapoel Ramat Gan will again face off against Hapoel Tel Aviv at Yad Eliyahu in the third semi-final match to decide which of the two teams will meet perennial champions Maccabi Tel Aviv in the final next week. Ramat Gan avenged the best-of-three semi-final series with a powerful 74-57 victory before a packed house at Ussishkin Stadium on Monday night, after their opponents had won the first game by two points. The victory added momentum to the Ramat Gan team. Steve Kaplan had a severely sprained left hand and Steve Malovic had a bad back — was the content by means of their solid defense. They held Tel Aviv to 31 points before the half and 26 in the second half. Tel Aviv's Larry Lerner, who had scored 14 points in the first half, Mike Lerner, Tel Aviv's other top scorer, could only collect four points, although it was he who scored the winning basket in the final seconds. Ramat Gan's Or Goren scored 21 points before fouling out at the eight-minute mark. Despite his injured hand, Steve Kaplan added 17 points to his team's tally. Hapoel Tel Aviv's Larry Lerner would have been the only offensive threat and finished with 20 points and 12 rebounds.

Shlomo's good start

Post Sports Staff, Agencies

Shlomo Glickstein got off to a good start for the Hapoel Tel Aviv team in the first round of the Israeli Basketball League. The 24-year-old forward, who is a native of Chicago, scored 14 points in the first half, helping his team to a 74-57 victory over Hakoah Ramat Gan. Glickstein is ranked 54 and Glickstein 34. Other winners were Joakim Nyström, Marco Ostergaard and Anders Jurell. In Boca Raton, Florida, the Hapoel Tel Aviv team won the 1984 U.S. Open Golf Tournament. The Israeli team won the 7.5-7.5 in the final of the \$40,000 Grand Masters Tournament. Both players produced superb quality tennis, with crisp, angled volleys, but Lerner missed many chances and Hapoel Tel Aviv's service problems. In the doubles, Ray Emmons and Fred Stolle beat Russell and Laver 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

Flying Kite

MIAMI (AP). — Tom Kite romped around the green with both arms pumping the air in joyous salute to an 18th-hole birdie that finished off a 7-under-par 65 and made him a two-stroke winner over Jack Nicklaus on Sunday in the \$400,000 Doral-Eastern Open Golf Tournament.

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IRAN HAS MUSTERED three-quarters of a million troops, including women and boys, for a decisive strike against Iraq, but it will probably fail, according to a panel of U.S. strategists.

Whatever the outcome, it is unlikely that the superpowers would intervene or the world be plunged into a new oil crisis, they said at a news conference last Friday sponsored by the private Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

The team conceded that it was working in the dark to a great extent, lacking detailed knowledge of damage suffered by both sides in the 42-month-old war and their remaining capabilities.

One panelist said most experts in Washington believed that the new Iranian offensive the war would drag on much as before.

Shireen Hunter, a former Iranian diplomat now on the CSIS staff, said

Iran builds up human wave

By RODNEY PINDER / Washington

that the Iranian force had been massed for a three-pronged assault aimed at breaking the stalemate in the long war of attrition.

Panel members said they believed Iran had decided to strike now because Iraq had strengthened its economic and military positions in the past year and further improvements were likely in the next 12 months.

IRAQ HAD increased its oil exports

from 800,000 to 900,000 barrels a day through Turkey and further outlets were planned through Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Fresh arms supplies had been secured from the Soviet Union and France.

"Iran knows this, and this offensive is Iran's chance to catch Iraq before things get better," said Thomas McNaughton, a security analyst with the private Brookings Institution.

But, he said, there was a 60 per cent probability that Iraq would halt the onslaught after "an enormous amount of bloodshed" and there would be no fundamental change in the war.

"Iraq's advantage in defensive positions, artillery, armour and perhaps air power face Iran's boy and man power, the former being used in human wave attacks to weaken Iraq," former Pentagon planner Harlan Ullman said.

The panel members said they believed the U.S. and its allies could ensure a free flow of oil through the Gulf if Iran tried to choke it off.

If there were a short-term disruption, demand could be met by increased production by Libya, Nigeria, Venezuela and Mexico. Hunter said, adding that world oil stocks were good.

"One would not see a panic (but) there is a danger of complacency," the panelist said. (Reuter)

Driving forests to death

By THOMAS NETTERO
Geneva

A RECENT television programme showed what had once been a forest but was now a wasteland. As the camera panned the ruined landscape, the soundtrack played air-raid sirens and whistling artillery shells.

The programme was not about warfare, but about the forests of Switzerland.

The land known to the rest of the world as a tourist paradise is now in trouble because its forests are dying quickly. In some areas one-third of the trees are sick, or already dead.

"It's catastrophic — particularly if nothing is done," said Claude Martin of the World Wildlife Fund, Zurich in an interview with the Associated Press. "There are mountain valleys that will soon become uninhabitable, where the death of trees is threatening villages with avalanches and mudslides."

The "waldsterben" or "dying forest" phenomenon has burst on the country like an angry storm. After years during which Martin says "nobody wanted to believe it was happening," the issue has become the No. 1 concern according to recent public opinion polls. And hardly a day goes by without a newspaper publishing stories headlined "forests killed by man."

Forests are dying from vehicles releasing nitric oxide, factories producing hydrocarbons, and the notorious "acid rain" carrying sulphur dioxide.

"You can judge it from the symptoms in our forests," Martin said. "And since the phenomenon progresses very quickly, as we know from West Germany, the situation is already worse now than it was a couple of months ago."

A report released by the Federal Office of Silviculture in mid-February estimated that one-fifth of this Alpine country's vast forests —



Pastoral scene in Geneva...a threatened existence. (Isaac Harari)

which comprise one-fourth of its area — may be said to have been damaged by pollution. Four per cent of the 200 to 300 million trees in Switzerland are dead or doomed, and another 14 per cent ailing.

Although the situation is most severe around Basel, in the northwest, where the chemical industry is located, the disease is spreading and has now hit the forests of Grisons, in the southeast. "Although Grisons is relatively far from the real emission centres such as Zurich, Basel and Bern, the damage is caused by the largely synergistic effect of hydrocarbons combining with nitric oxide from car exhausts," Martin said.

Martin described how trees die: nitric oxide combines with sunlight to form what is called "ozone," which produces chemicals that kill the trees. This leads to what Martin calls the "secondary damage" — fungus and bark beetles that eat the tree from the inside, and can kill a big tree in "a couple of days."

As a result, foresters have moved through the woods, marking diseased or dead trees with crude, white, long crosses. Officials hope that by cutting the trees, they can halt the spread of disease, or fungus and beetle damage.

The attention is recent, but the problem itself is old, says Martin.

"If you look at a cross-section of a pine or spruce cut in the worst areas, you can see that from the year 1958, there is a sudden peak where the distance between the rings that show the tree's growth become much, much smaller," Martin said. "This shows that the growth increment began to slow down 25 years ago. But in 1981-82, the first really severe symptoms of obviously sick or dying trees became visible."

The government has scheduled consideration of a comprehensive action programme, which is expected to deal with industrial emissions and pollution from oil-fired private heating as well as automobile exhausts.

Environmentalists, meanwhile, are pressing for a lowering of speed limits, from 130 to 100 kilometres per hour (81 to 60mph) on super highways, and from 100 to 80kph (60 to 50mph) on all other roads outside built-up areas, a move the government says could reduce by 9,000 tons or 9 per cent nitric oxide emissions.

But Martin says the authorities should go further, banning leaded gasoline, requiring catalytic converters and restricting exhaust emissions of heavy trucks which produce about 30 per cent of the nitric oxide. (Associated Press)

Bitter feud in Punjab

By CHAITANYA KALBAG
New Delhi

AS COMMUNAL VIOLENCE continues between Hindu and Sikh in India's Punjab state, historian Khushwant Singh, like many of his fellow-countrymen, is asking why the two groups have turned on each other after centuries of living peacefully together.

At least 80 people have died and about 400 have been injured in clashes between the communities in the past month. Disturbances began in Punjab after militant Sikhs launched a campaign for religious and political concessions 19 months ago.

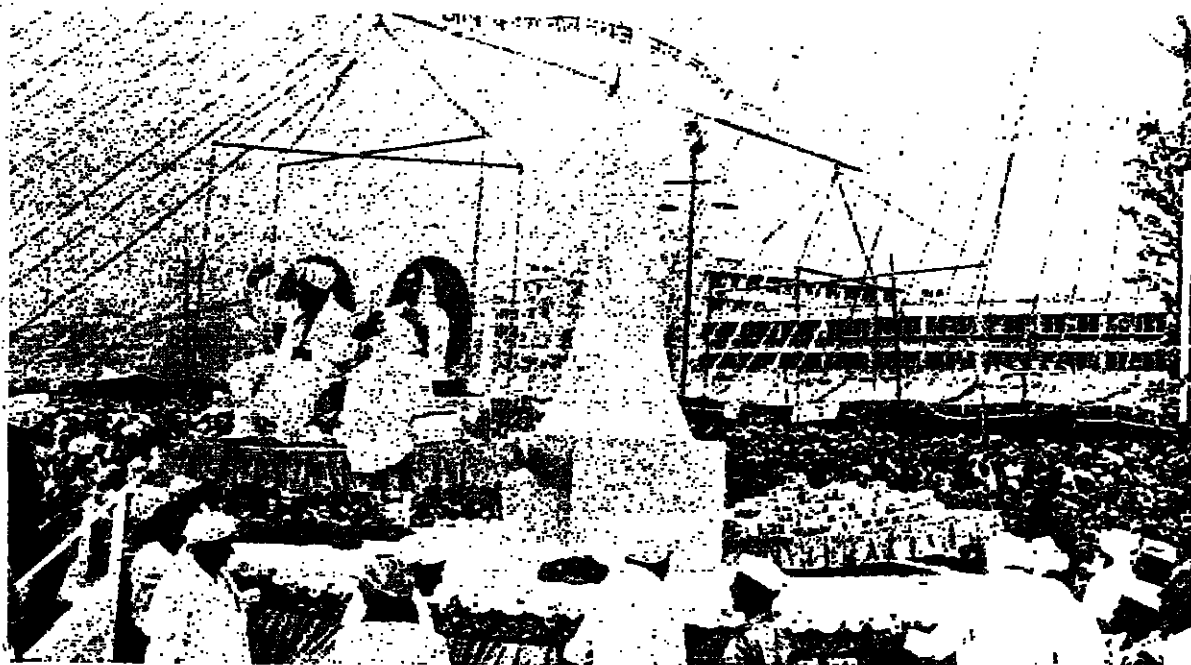
Singh, 68, a former newspaper editor, politician and author of a definitive history of the Sikhs, is bewildered by the bitter feud between the groups in Punjab, home for most of India's 12 million Sikhs. Singh describes the Sikh religion as a reformist movement. It was founded about 1500 C.E. by a Hindu called Nanak Chand, who sought to do away with Hinduism's caste distinctions and its many gods.

Guru (teacher) Nanak, as he was known, distilled Hindu and Moslem beliefs and drew converts from both religions. "But his work held strong echoes of Hindu scriptures," says Singh.

Arjun, the fifth guru, compiled the *Adi Granth*, the Sikhs' holy book with over 6,000 verses written in simple language understood by every Punjabi, whether Hindu or Sikh. "The *Granth Sahib*, as it is also known, contains the teachings of every major Hindu and Moslem saint in India," Singh said.

ARJUN ALSO founded the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, the headquarters for the present Sikh struggle for greater autonomy.

His execution by the Mughal Emperor Jehangir in 1606 produced the first stirrings of Sikh militancy. But it was Gobind Singh, last in the



Nearly 250,000 Sikhs weigh a guru and his wife in bank notes. The money goes to charity. (Camera Press)

line of Sikh gurus, who gave the Sikhs a martial tradition and the characteristics of unshorn hair and turbans.

Strung by Mughal persecution, Gobind Singh forged the Sikhs in 1699 into a fighting fraternity called the *Khalsa*, a Persian word meaning "pure."

Some Sikh extremists now fight for a separate Sikh nation called Khalistan.

Gobind Singh stipulated that the names of his followers should include the word Singh (lion) as a way of avoiding the caste distinctions of Hindu surnames.

He also demanded that they should observe the five "Ks" — *kesh* (hair and beard unshorn), *keertika* (comb worn in the hair), *kuchha* (a pair of shorts worn by all Sikh men and women), *kara* (a steel bracelet worn on the right wrist), and *kirpan* (a holy sword carried by all Sikhs).

GOBIND SINGH decreed he was the last guru and that Sikhs should worship only their holy book after his death.

Khushwant Singh says Hindu-Sikh links have remained strong. Until Punjab was partitioned in 1947 when India and Pakistan gained their independence, each Hindu family in West Punjab (now in Pakistan) raised its eldest son as a Sikh and Hindus even now worship at Sikh shrines.

The only previous violent rift between Sikhs and Hindus came in the 1920s when the forerunner of the Akali Dal, today's main Sikh political party, launched a movement to dislodge Hindus who had traditionally administered Sikh shrines.

At least 400 Sikhs were killed and over 30,000 went to prison before the then British rulers gave control of the shrines to a Sikh temple management committee.

"History is repeating itself today," said Singh. High up in the Akali Dal's current religious demands is the transfer of about 30 government-administered Sikh shrines outside Punjab to the committee's control.

"The Sikhs' anti-Hindu paranoia stems from a feeling of suffocation. They lost a large chunk of territory to Pakistan during partition. Then the Indian government carved the states of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh out of the remainder."

At least 2.5 million Sikhs poured into the Indian Punjab from the Pakistani side during partition and in the communal bloodbath Sikhs and Hindus fought side by side against Moslems.

Singh warned that if Hindu-Sikh tension grew, more and more Sikhs settled in other parts of India would migrate into Punjab, dislodging Hindus there.

"Sikhs constitute only 52 per cent

of Punjab's population, which is not enough to win total control of the territory," he said.

"But if their numbers are swelled by panic-stricken migration, the extremists will finally be able to accomplish their objective — a Sikh-majority province that will only be a hair's breadth away from a demand for secession." (Reuter)

New studies on dinosaur fate

By LEE SIEGEL / Los Angeles

FIVE NEWLY-PUBLISHED studies provide "overwhelming evidence" that dinosaurs and many other creatures became extinct when an asteroid or comet smashed into the earth 65 million years ago, researchers say.

The studies, published in the March 16 issue of *Science*, represent the latest salvo in a long-running debate over the cause of one of the world's largest mass annihilations of living things in the earth's history.

Other scientists say the mass extinction may have been triggered by gradual changes in climate or a tremendous volcanic eruption.

The new studies were conducted by researchers from the University of California at Berkeley and Los Angeles, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories, the University of Colorado, the U.S. Geological Survey and Los Alamos National Laboratory, as well as Dutch and Danish scientists.

UC Berkeley geologist Walter Alvarez was principal author of the study and has top billing in the scientific journal. He has worked with other Berkeley scientists, who last month proposed that a companion star to the sun — a killer star nicknamed "Nemesis" — might sweep the earth with comets every 36 million years.

Comet showers could explain last year's University of Chicago theory that mass extinctions have occurred on earth roughly every 26 million to 28 million years, the researchers said.

THE NEW STUDIES offer complex geological evidence that a 10 kilometre-diameter asteroid or comet once hit earth, creating a huge dust cloud that plunged the planet into cold and darkness, causing massive destruction.

"We have an enormous amount of evidence showing that an asteroid or comet hit the earth 65 million years ago... and was in some way responsible for the extinction of the dinosaurs and many other kinds of animals and plants," Alvarez said.

Jan Smit, a fossil expert who wrote one of the new studies, said evidence supporting the asteroid-comet theory "is so overwhelming it's very hard to come up with an alternative."

UC Berkeley fossil expert William Clemens disagreed, saying the debate is "far from over." He believes gradual climate changes can explain the extinction.

Clemens said that, for example, the abrupt disappearance of dinosaur fossils from rocks in Montana could mean the creatures simply

moved south as the weather got colder, and died off slowly — not suddenly.

THE SURVIVAL of fish, amphibians and certain mammals indicates that mass extinction was selective and gradual, not catastrophic, he said.

Throughout the 1970s most scientists believed mass extinctions occurred gradually over periods up to 10 million years as worsening climate or changing sea levels eliminated food supplies for many land and ocean organisms.

The new studies show that contrary to the generally accepted opinion there were very sharp extinctions in a number of these animal groups precisely at the time the (comet or asteroid) impact occurred 65 million years ago, Alvarez said.

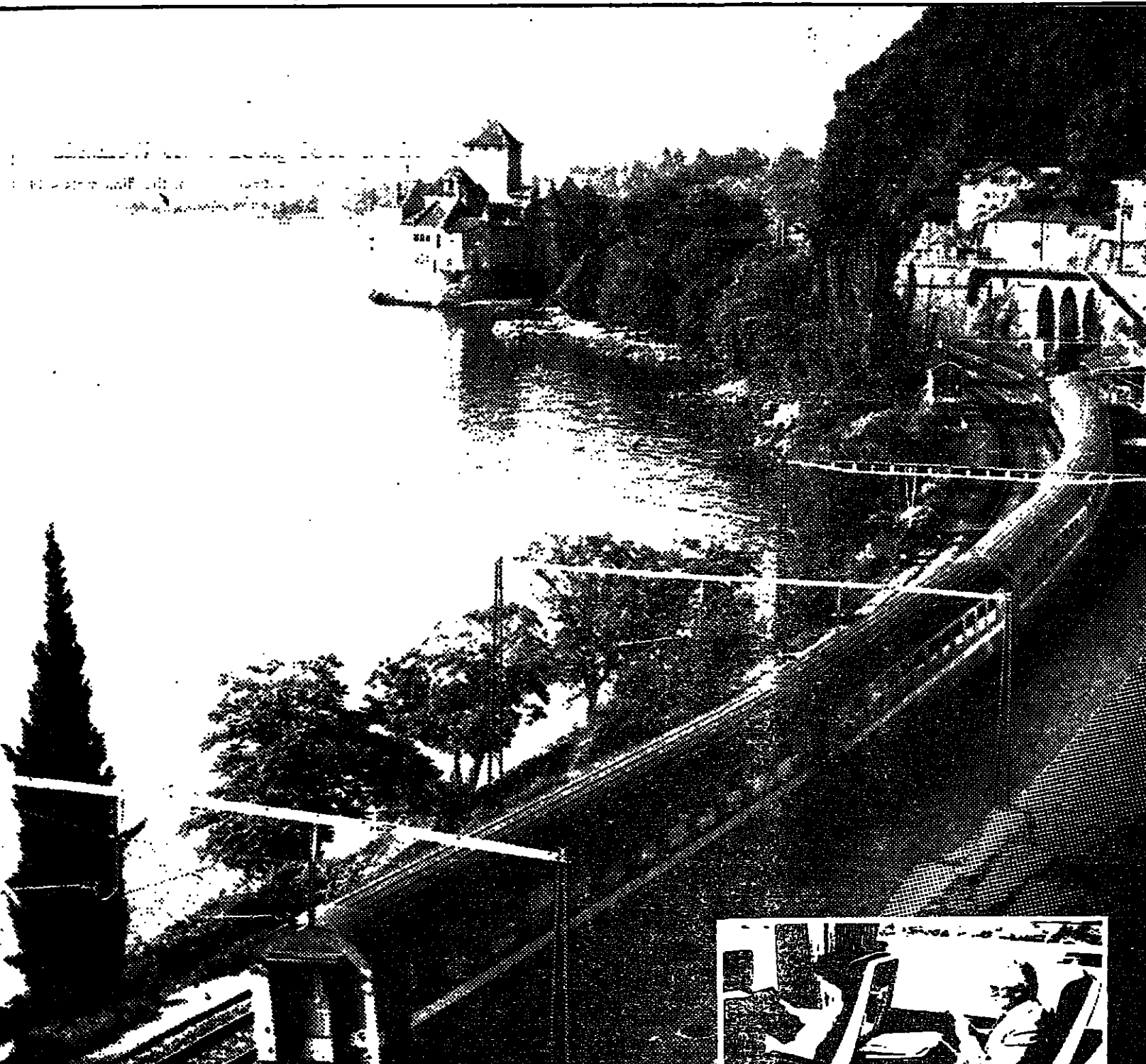
The animals include shellfish whose fossils were found in Denmark and dinosaurs, pollen-producing plants, and possum-like animals in Montana.

Alvarez argued that the new evidence shows mass extinction can occur in two ways — gradually because of climate changes or suddenly because of a comet or asteroid collision with earth.

In recent years the idea of catastrophic extinction gained momentum as scientists found nearly 50 sites worldwide where 65-million-year-old rocks contain the last of the dead species and large amounts of the rare metallic element iridium.

Iridium is thought to be more abundant in asteroids and comets than on earth, so the iridium-rich rocks must have formed from the dust created when such an object collided with the planet, Alvarez said.

The most catastrophic extinction was 225 million years ago and killed half of all animal families, scientists said. There is no direct evidence that that disaster was linked to an asteroid or comet, and was probably due to environmental factors, they said. (Associated Press)



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Coveted Rothschild Prizes for Tadiran and Kulso teams

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A wire bonder that joins filaments one-tenth the thickness of a human hair, and a lithium battery with higher energy density than any other commercially available, yesterday brought two Israeli companies the prestigious Rothschild Prizes for innovation and development.

The prizes, each accompanied by an \$8,000 award, were presented at a Beit Hanassi ceremony in the presence of President Chaim Herzog and of Jacob Rothschild, who represented the family that endowed the prizes for the seventh year running.

President Herzog noted that while the country's main challenges in the past were agriculture and construction, today it is vital to face the challenges of technological industry, development and exports. "The economic future of Israel depends largely on its ability to meet the test of the current technological revolution," Herzog told an audience of 150.

The judging committee, headed by Uzia Gili, chose the winners from among nine contestants.

Tadiran's five-man engineering team in the primary batteries plant in Rehovot was cited for the development of a lithium battery, which is widely used for military systems; bio-medical devices like pacemakers and as backup power for computer memories. The basic research work began in 1973, in

conjunction with General Telephone and Electronics in the U.S. Since 1978, Tadiran has dominated the market for lithium inorganic batteries in the U.S., Western Europe and Japan, with exports totalling over \$18 million by the end of 1983.

Three senior engineers of Kulso Ltd., of Haifa, a subsidiary of the Philadelphia-based firm Kulicke & Soffa, received their prize for the wire bonder, used for micro-electronic industries. They solve the problems of bonding very small-sized wires in high-density packages.

Production of the new machines began in 1982, with customers in the U.S., West Germany, France and Japan. Kulso has so far exported 650 of the bonders, worth over \$7m.

Yoram Gal, of Tadiran, accepted the prize for his team, while Asher Brockmann of Kulso accepted it on behalf of himself and his colleagues.

At the ceremony, Eli Hurvitz, chairman of the Manufacturers' Association, said that it was unfortunate that the country spends ten times more on defence industries' research and development than on civilian technology R & D. That decision, he said, affects both Israel's image and its society.

He added that the country's industrial workers produce less than \$20,000 worth of goods each per year, compared to \$30-\$40,000 per capita annually in Europe and the U.S.



Baron Jacob de Rothschild (at right) hands over the prize certificate to Baruch Ravid of Tadiran at Beit Hanassi yesterday. (Haran)

Vatican Bank to pay \$250m. in Ambrosiano settlement

VATICAN CITY (Reuters). — The Vatican Bank has agreed to pay \$250 million in three instalments as its part in a settlement of debts left by the failed Banco Ambrosiano, informed church sources said this week.

The Vatican was soon expected to acknowledge officially its role in the settlement, they reported.

Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia, a member of a commission looking into church administration, said last week he expected the Vatican to sign an agreement with Ambrosiano liquidators, but cautioned that it could be delayed.

Under the agreement the Vatican Bank, known as the Institute for

Works of Religion (IOR), would make three payments at six-month intervals. It was not clear how soon after the signing the first payment would be made.

The sources said the payments were not just a goodwill gesture by the Vatican, but a practical means of closing one of the most disturbing chapters in the Vatican's recent history.

Under the agreement the IOR, which owned part of the Ambrosiano Bank, but has always denied moral or financial responsibility for its failure, would be protected from future lawsuits and the freezing of IOR assets outside the Vatican.

With the accord, which does not imply any guilt by the IOR or its president, American Archbishop Paul Marcinkus, the Vatican considers the affair closed, the church sources said.

The agreement says the IOR felt it had no blame in the Ambrosiano failure.

Italian officials have said the IOR was responsible for some £1.3 billion in Ambrosiano debts, but the Vatican claimed Roberto Calvi, the Ambrosiano president who was found hanged in London in 1982, abused the IOR for a "secret project."

The sources said the IOR would raise money to meet the instalments in three ways: loans from international banks, the selling of Vatican shares in Italian companies, and loans from the American and West German Catholic churches.

Under the agreement the IOR, which is not subject to Italian banking regulations, would retain its autonomy.

ADVERTISING. — Ahikam Shapira, 37, has been appointed deputy-general manager of Arieli Publicity, in Tel Aviv.

New foreign exchange rules in Egypt

CAIRO (Reuters). — Egypt is about to introduce new exchange regulations to prevent trading of foreign currency on the illegal free market, in what economic experts here see as an effective devaluation of the Egyptian pound.

The regulations, recommended by Egypt's Central Bank, are designed to unify Egypt's diverse foreign exchange rates and to attract remittances through legal channels by an estimated 3.5 million Egyptians who work in Arab oil-producing states or elsewhere.

Officials said this would be done by setting a rate of 1.12 pounds to the U.S. dollar for remittances of workers, against an official rate of 0.84 pounds to the dollar.

Last year, private banks were authorized to offer an incentive rate somewhat better than the official rate, to attract workers' money. This rate went up to 1.08 pounds to the dollar late last year.

The officials said the regulations also involve the financing of imports without the need to transfer currency.

This could be done by either authorizing cashiers' offices to provide foreign currency for importers, or to arrange for foreign banks to finance import transactions without transfer of currency.

The economic experts noted that the move would only amount to removal of a "smoke screen," since much of the money remitted by workers abroad has been cashed on the free market. They said it would do nothing to help Egypt's economy, strained by a population of nearly 47 million and foreign debts of \$16 to \$19 billion.

Total remittances by Egyptians, now the chief source of foreign currency, are expected to top \$3b. for the fiscal year ending June 30.

SUDAN OIL. — The Chevron Oil Company of Sudan has decided to resume operations in some areas of Southern Sudan following last month's suspension of its activities there for security considerations.

WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at \$1520 per line including VAT, insertion every day of the month costs \$15,200 including VAT, per month. Copy accepted at offices of The Jerusalem Post and all recognized advertising agents.

Jerusalem:

MUSEUMS
Israel Museum, Opening Exhibition (13.3 at 8 p.m.): Master Drawings from Uffizi Gallery, Florence. Continuing Exhibitions: Small Scale Modern Sculpture from the Museum; Joseph Zaritsky, Oil Paintings and Aquatints; David Schneurer, Posters and Advertisements; Henriette, 45 Years of Design; Art looks at Art; Dr. Erich Salomon, From a Photographer's Life (until 17.3); Ofi Reisman, Paintings; Scrap, Creating, Some Theatre Sets and Greeting Cards; Tom Seidmann, Permanent Collection of Judaica, Art, Archaeology and Contemporary Israeli Art; Rockefeller Museum: Kadesh Barnea, Jewish Kingdom; How to Study the Past (for children, at Paley Center), Closed Saturdays.
Yehuda Museum, Main Museum 4-10, At 3: Guided tour of Shrine of the Book, 4:30; Guided tour of Shrine of the Book, 5:30; Film "Whom the Bell Tolls".
CONDUCTED TOURS
HADASSAH — Guided tour of all installations — Hourly tours at Kiryat Hadassah and Hadassah Mt. Scopus. Information, reservations: 02-416333, 02-446271.
Hebrew University:
Tours in English at 9 and 11 a.m. from Administration Building, Givat Ram Campus, Buses 9 and 28.
2. Mount Scopus tours 11 a.m. from the Breunlein Reception Center, Sherman Building, Buses 9 and 28 to last stop, further details: Tel. 02-582222.
American Mizrahi Women, Free Morning Tours — 8 A.M. at Kiryat, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-699222.

TEL AVIV
MUSEUMS
Tel Aviv Museum, Exhibitions: Comic Images in the Art of the 20th Century, Pinny Lerner, Israeli fashion designer (until 15.3 at 10 p.m.); Micha Kirshner, photographs; Impressionism and Post-Impressionism; Twentieth Century Art, Visions: Sun-Thur. 10-10, Fri. closed, Sat. 10-2; 7-10, Helena Rubinstein Pavilion: New Exhibitions A Piece and an Apple — Exhibition on Still-Life, Visions: Sun-Thur. 9-11; 5-9, Sat. 10-2, Fri. closed.
CONDUCTED TOURS
American Mizrahi Women, Free Morning Tours — Tel Aviv, Tel. 220177, 243106.
WIZO: To visit our projects call Tel. 233939; Jerusalem, 226060; Haifa, 99337.
PIONEER WOMEN — NA'AMAT, Morning tours, call for reservations: Tel Aviv, 256096.
MISCELLANEOUS
Hadassah Visitors Dept. Please call 03-491489, 87971.

HAIFA
Golden Age Club (Rothschild Community Center, Mt. Carmel), today 4.15: Slide lecture, "Journey Through Bavaria and a Visit to Prague" by Mr. Esther Brav Guests and new members welcome.
What's On in Haifa, dial 04-648640.

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QUICK SOLUTION
ACROSS: 1 Isadora, 4 Ariel, 8 Count, 9 Chastity, 10 Malachi, 11 Free, 12 Fed, 14 Eden, 15 Aye, 16 Two, 17 Abba, 21 Denny, 22 Shaka, 23 Downright, 24 Wood, 25 Downright.
DOWN: 1 Reviling, 2 Clearness, 3 Church council, 4 Surgical dressing, 5 Arm joint, 6 Slender girl, 9 Precious stones, 14 Captain, 15 Overseer, 16 Moderately slow and even (max.), 18 Sharp-pointed, 20 Part of southern Sweden, 21 Turn aside.

European Monetary System on 5th anniversary EMS hailed as a success amid some disappointment

BRUSSELS (Reuters). — The European Monetary System, which (EMS) celebrates its fifth anniversary this week, is regarded by its supporters as an island of relative stability in the turmoil of the world's foreign exchange markets.

Top European Community officials and bankers say the EMS has been a success — but a Reuter survey also showed disappointment among them at its failure to become more than an exchange rate mechanism.

They said a radical change of heart was needed to fulfil hopes that the EMS might create the common monetary policy that the ten-nation bloc still lacks. This was unlikely to materialize at today's anniversary meeting of finance ministers here, they added.

The EMS groups all community currencies except newcomer Greece's drachma and Britain's sterling in a complex scheme to keep them floating within set limits against each other. They can move up to 2.25 per cent either side of a fixed mid-point — except Italy's lira, which is allowed six per cent each way.

The actual floors and ceilings have had to be realigned seven times since the EMS came into operation on March 12, 1979. West German Economics Minister Otto Lambsdorff said last week that the recent sharp fall in the dollar's value could lead to a new EMS reshuffle for the first time since March last year.

The dollar has slumped from around 2.80 West German marks at the beginning of February to about 2.56 now, and dealers say the mark's new strength has boosted it close to its upper EMS limit against the Belgian franc.

The mark is currently worth some

20.47 Belgian francs, compared with an EMS ceiling of 20.4835 and a floor of 19.5850.

Other EMS limits for the mark include 2.9985-3.1363 French francs and 589.60-664.73 lire. And the Irish pound can float between 3.4030 and 3.5600 Dutch guilders and 10.9600 and 11.4735 Danish crowns, for example.

Bankers said they were happy that the EMS had created relative monetary stability, spurring members to coordinate economic policies.

But ambitious plans to create a European Monetary Fund — a community-wide central bank — and to move towards a single European currency have been left untouched since 1980.

The British government's continued refusal to bring sterling into the EMS has also undermined prospects for extending the system.

Both the West German central bank, the Bundesbank, and the Bonn government are still concerned that the economies of EMS members are too different to allow a tighter monetary union.

Despite increasingly similar economic policies based on controlling public spending and improving industrial competitiveness, inflation rates, for example, still vary widely among member states — from three per cent in the Netherlands, to 12.2 per cent in Italy.

The strains on the EMS caused by the dollar's recent slide also highlighted Europe's helplessness in the face of wide U.S. exchange rate movements.

Italy, meanwhile, is the only country to grant the ECU status as a foreign currency, but in West Germany its use by banks is banned.

ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL:
8.15 School Broadcasts 15.00 Everyman's University: The Age of Revolutions; Emerging African Nations; Art in the Age of Technology 16.10 Ten Minute Theatre 17.00 A New Evening — live magazine
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES:
17.30 3, 4, 5
17.50 The Higher, Stronger — sports
ARABIC LANGUAGE:
18.30 Newsround
18.32 The Naughty Doll
18.45 What's the Answer?
19.00 Documentary
19.30 News
HEBREW PROGRAMMES:
20.00 with a news roundup
20.02 Near Ones and Dear Ones — Israeli series about relatives who live in the same apartment building; Starring Hanna Maron, Yehoshua Goren, Isaac Rivlin, Ben Dar and Tiki Dayan
20.30 Kolbot
21.30 Second Look
22.10 Missions, Part 6 of a 8 part documentary series on the history of the Zionists. Starring Peter O'Toole, Peter Strauss and Anthony Quayle
22.45 A Time There Was — a profile of Benjamin Britten
23.30 News
JORDAN TV (official):
17.40 Cartoons 18.00 French Hour 18.30 (JTV 3) Science film 18.45 Target 19.00 News in French 19.30 News in Hebrew 19.45 Magazine Zero One 20.00 News in Arabic 20.30 Barney Miller 21.10 The Jewel in the Crown 22.00 News in English 22.15 Play of the Week
MIDDLE EAST TV (from T.A. north):
13.00 Shapir 13.30 Westerns: The Marshal 14.00 Another Life 14.30 700 Club 15.00 Afternoon Movie 16.30 Spiderman 17.00 Popeye 17.30 Flying House 18.00 Laramie 19.00 Bonanza 20.00 Another Life 20.30 World News Tonight 21.00 Entertainment Special WIZO 21.30 White Shadow 22.30 1 Spy 23.20 700 Club 23.50 News Update

ON THE AIR

Voice of Music
6.02 Musical Clock
7.07 Mozart: Rondo (Vladimir Horowitz); Schubert: Trio, Op. 99 (Eastman); Mendelssohn: Songs Without Words (Horowitz)
7.30 Vivaldi: Violin Concerto in A minor (I Musici); Bach: Piano Concerto No. 5 in F minor (Lukas Foss); Mendelssohn: Motet; Ravell: Pavane; Francis: Viola Sonata (Misha Maisky, Martha Argerich); Smetana: Vltava
9.30 Hasser: Psalm; Noam Sheriff: Festive Overture (JSO); Back Fantasy in G major; Arriving: String Quartet No. 5; K. Stamitz: Symphony; The Hunt; Berlioz: Rob Roy, overture; Chopin: Sonata in B minor (Shoshanna Rudnikoff); Rachmaninoff-Symphony Dances
12.00 Handel: Concerto for Flute, Violin, Cello and Piano; Yavay: Sonata No. 6, for Violin Solo; Beethoven: String Quartet, Op. 59, No. 1 (New Zurich)
13.05 Prokofiev: Cinderella, ballet music (Cleveland, Ashkenazy)
15.00 Guided Tour in Music (repeat)
16.00 Youth Programme
16.30 The Israel Philharmonic, Beethoven: Mendel Rodan conducting; Claude Frank.

ARMY
6.05 Morning Sounds
6.30 University on the Air
7.07 "707" with Alex Audi
8.05 Morning Newsweek
9.05 Right Now — with Rafi Reiz
11.05 Israel Winner — with Eli Yarnali
11.05 Two Hours
15.05 What's Wrong — with Erez Tal
16.05 Four in the Afternoon
17.05 Evening Newsweek
18.05 Music Magazine
19.05 Music Today — music magazine
20.05 Rock Plus
21.05 Mahat — TV Newsweek
22.05 University on the Air (repeat)
22.05 Evening Sounds
23.05 Classical Favourites — with Pinchas Kadan
00.05 Night Birds — songs, chm.

CINEMAS

JERUSALEM 4, 7, 9
Eden: The Man; Edison: Lord of Discipline; Habshah: Pacific in Flames; Kfir: Operetta; Strumel; Mitchell: Rear Window 7, 9.15; Odeon: To Be or Not to Be; Odeon: Savage World; Ben: Return of Martin Guerre 4, 7, 9.15; Smeadar: Flash Dance 7, 9; Shalev: Ha'mama; The Hunger 7, 9; Cinema One: Triple feature: Live and Let Die 6; Ninja 7.45; Blue Thunder 9.30; Cinemaque: Great Muppet Caper 4; Four for Texas 7; Topaz 7.30 (small hall); Sunset Boulevard 9.30; Israel Museum: For Whom the Bell Tolls 6, 8.30.

TEL AVIV 4.30, 7.15, 9.30
Alkemy: The Day After 4.30, 7.10, 9.30; Ben-Yehuda: My Tutor; Chen I: Terms of Engagement 4.30, 7, 9.30; Chen 2: Nevat Cy Wolf 4.35, 7.10, 9.40; Chen 3: Trading Places 4.30, 7, 9.30; Chen 4: Esquivel: Preferred But Not Essential 4.45, 7.35, 9.35; Front Page 10.30, 1.30; Chen 5: Officer and Gentleman 4.30, 7, 9.40; Pretty Girl 10.30, 1.30; Cinema One: Gone With the Wind 4.30, 7, 9.30; Conversation Piece 7.15, 9.30; Drive-In: Sudden Impact 7, 9.30; Sex film, midnight; Esther: Le Marginal 7.15, 9.30; Gati: I Love You Current; Goren: Requiem for a Fool; Hadas: Private School for Girls; Lev: Return of Martin Guerre 4.30, 7.30, 9.30; Lev II: We of the Never Never 1.30, 4.30, 7.30.

RAMAT GAN
Armen: Looking for Mr. Goodbar 7.30; Eye for an Eye 4; Lily: Educating Rita 7.15, 9.30; Odeon: Staying Alive 4.30, 7.30; Odeon: Who Will Love My Child? 7.15, 9.30; Ramat Gan: To Be or Not to Be 7.15, 9.30.

HERZLIYA
Dirk: Sudden Impact 7.15, 9.30; Thunder 7.15, 9.15.

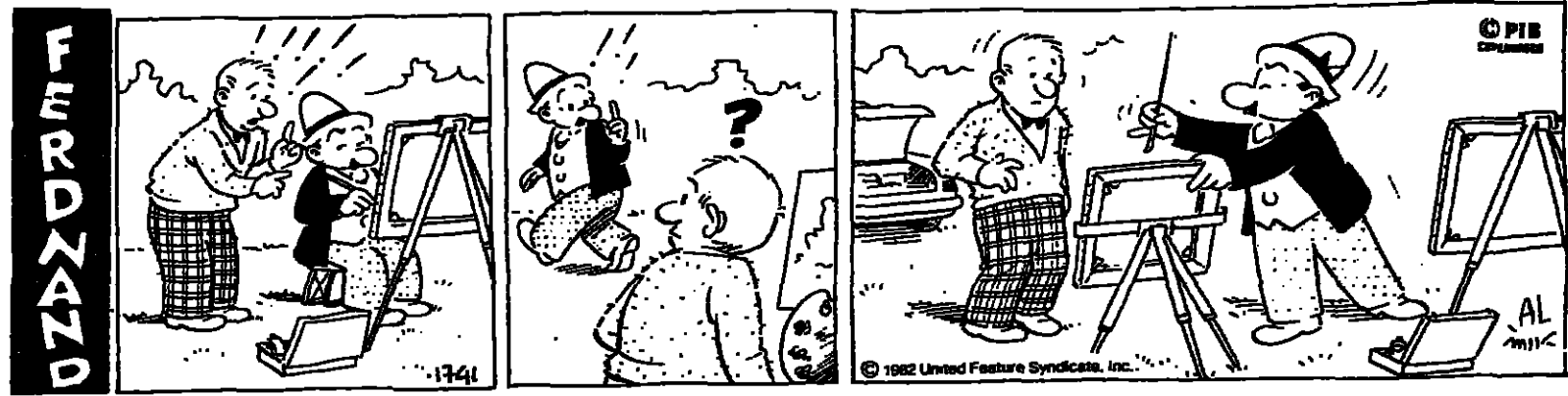
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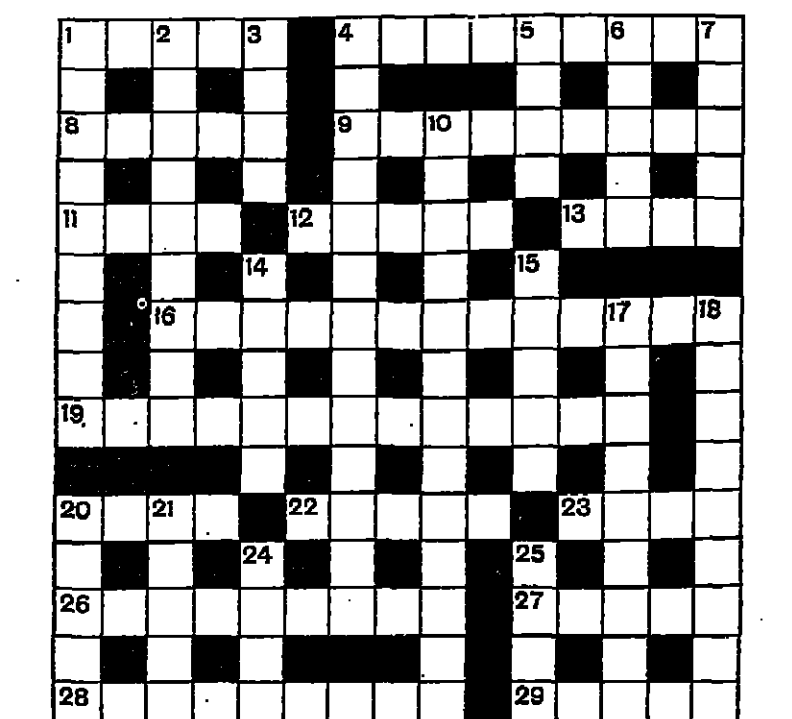
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ONE-AND-ONE CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 A Thomas Short, musketeer (5)
4 chap on foot? (9)
8 Try to make a pot — it is worth a change (5)
9 Soldiers got ready? (9)
11 Right about Kipling's poem being split (4)
12 Weightlifting wader (5)
13 Mixed foursomes opening St Andrews are social creatures (4)
16 It holds things — those blackest, perhaps (7-6)
19 Putting down lowest deposit? (13)
20 Tuft of hair bowler once revealed (4)
22 Winter in France for beekeeper (5)
23 Large service? (4)
26 "The Three Corners Hat," principal composition (4-5)
27 Wandering Tokyn characters in old capital (5)
28 Contemplate worker looking back in arms (9)
29 Home counties engulfed, by sludge, it is thought (5)

DOWN
1 To prevent this painful condition, air T-shirt properly (9)
2 Like the Eiger? That is pretty cheeky! (4-5)
3 What is magician's lady saving at noon? (4)
4 Scheme proven, I take out a policy (13)
5 Clear-headed, having taken some herbal doses (4)
6 ex Vicar has no head for such thing (5)
7 Lodgement-place I'd find in sun after retirement (5)
10 Teller's account? (4, 9)
14 Types of grub in place of diets (5)
15 Prince of Troy in mixed pairs (5)
17 Jumpers with short arms and deep pockets (9)
18 First obstacle for groom? (9)
20 Composer in "Harlequins" — first-half scrummage (5)
21 Sword-sound of Campbells, perhaps, at head of Glencoe (5)
24 Box, taking sharp blows delivered upwards (4)
25 The Moszkowski "Mazagena" — piece to glide lightly over (4)



GENERAL ASSISTANCE

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15 Overseer
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20 Part of southern Sweden
21 Turn aside

195 shares down; 96 'sellers only'

TEL AVIV — The public yesterday responded to warnings by Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad regarding the buying of shares which have risen precipitously. The response came in the form of massive selling pressures, which made themselves felt in all sectors of the market. In most groups of trading the declines came up to 10 per cent. The General Share Index fell by 4.51 per cent, and if one excludes the commercial bank issues, the fall was 5.77 per cent.

The volatility statistics were a clearer indication of the rush out of the market. No fewer than 96 securities were "sellers only," while only five were "fixed-as-buyers only." In addition, 195 securities fell by margins in excess of five per cent, and as much as 26.2 per cent as was the case with Fertilizers O.I.

Yesterday marked the first day of trading of the Inter-Gamma shares, which came on the market in a less than suspicious fashion. The ISI shares were 5.5 per cent over their issue price, but the 155 shares were hammered for a 33 per cent loss.

The hardest hit sectors included industrials (down 6.04 per cent), land development, real estate and citrus plantations (down 6.28 per cent) and investment company securities (down 7.65 per cent).

Bank shares part of the "agreement" proved that they were immune against the downward trend, and they reflected losses of up to 4.6 per cent. Bank shares not part of the "agreement" fared considerably worse, as prices were "down by as much as 10 per cent." This was the case with the Maritime Bank shares and those of Danot 1. FIBI was nearly six per cent lower.

Losses of up to 10 per cent were recorded by mortgage bank securities. The lone and outstanding exception was the 10 per cent upward move of Binyan.

A 10 per cent slide by the Industrial Development Bank shares was the biggest loss in a downward moving specialized financial institution group.

Insurance shares were also down

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By JOSEPH MÖRGENSTERN

by margins of up to 10 per cent. Aryeh was 10 per cent lower for the second session. The options fared even worse, as the Hassneh option declined by 24.4 per cent and the Aryeh option was down 20.2 per cent.

There was little joy to be gleaned from prices in the service and trade group. Ten per cent losses were scattered throughout the group.

The land development, real estate and citrus plantation sector looked like a disaster area. "Sellers only" tags were attached to Darad O.I., Rassco option, Mishnel and Gessara O.I. and 0.5 shares.

Property & Building was eight per cent lower, while Bayside 0.5 was clipped for a 15 per cent loss. Clal Real Estate and Menray followed suit and suffered 15 per cent drops.

Industrials were hard hit and prices fell across a broad front. Ata C at 67 reflected a 10.1 per cent loss. Urdan O.I. was "sellers only," while the 0.5 shares were clobbered for a 15 per cent fall. The Zion Cables option was nearly 40 per cent lower.

High-technology issues were not spared. Elbot was 4.8 per cent lower, while Elron was maulled for an 8.1 per cent drop. Arif fell 5.1 per cent.

The Cyclone Aviation issues were "sellers only" for the second session and could fall sharply today. The Dead Sea Works lost 7.2 per cent. Clal Industries was none the worse off as a massive sell order was picked up at a price which was only 2.9 per cent lower than Sunday's closing level.

Investment issues plunged by margins of up to 10 per cent. The Israel Corporation issues were both 10 per cent lower. The same was true of the Clal Israel issues. Pilyon was 11.3 per cent lower.

The underlying strength in the oil

sector was reflected in the fact that the group eased by less than three per cent.

At the end of the session it was quite clear that the two-day shake out was far from being over. Lending support to this were the 23 securities which were "sellers only" for the second day running.

There was a mixed trend in index-linked bond trading. However, for the greater part price movements were in the order of one per cent in either direction.

The shekel was devalued by 42 agorot against the dollar. The dollar strengthened noticeably on overseas markets.

Rubinstein Contractors announced that it has filed a prospectus for a public financing issue consisting of ISI and ISI shares for a total of \$2 million. There is an offer from existing shareholders, who will be selling an equivalent amount of shares as the public offering, and in the same cash amount. Rubinstein is a builder and has a number of affiliate companies, including those specializing in building maintenance. Among these are Rubicon (1977), Hayarkon, and Landeco-Rubinstein.

The proceeds of the public financing issue will be used for an apartment project, with flats for sale and also for rent, in the Romema district of Jerusalem. The shares of the company are now held by Aharon Rubinstein and Avraham Rubinstein and their families.

| Most active stocks | Volume | Change | % change |
|--------------------|--------|------------|----------|
| Hapoelim r | 3685 | 71,057.9m | -110 |
| Leumi | 2355 | 52,361.1m | -80 |
| Leumi | 2445 | 52,043.3m | -260 |
| Shares traded: | | 151,055.8m | |
| Convertible: | | 151.7m | |
| Bonds: | | 479.2m | |

Dollar gains ground

LONDON (Reuters) — The dollar gained ground against other major currencies on foreign exchange markets yesterday on expectations of higher U.S. interest rates, but dealers appeared uncertain over its future direction.

It was quoted here at 2.6075 West German marks, more than two pennings higher than its closing levels last Friday, after making strong gains on Far Eastern markets earlier yesterday.

Dealers here said speculation that the Federal Reserve Bank will tighten its monetary policy, forcing interest rates up, had contributed to the dollar's present climb from a low point of 2.5190 marks early last week.

Bank of Israel exchange rates

| March 12, 1984 | IS |
|-------------------------|--------|
| U.S. dollar | 143.88 |
| British sterling | 209.56 |
| German mark | 55.285 |
| French franc | 17.944 |
| Dutch guilder | 48.997 |
| Swiss franc | 66.968 |
| Swedish krona | 18.565 |
| Norwegian krone | 19.161 |
| Danish krone | 15.123 |
| Finnish mark | 25.551 |
| Canadian dollar | 137.34 |
| Australian dollar | 119.76 |
| South African rand | 27.020 |
| Belgian franc (10) | 78.505 |
| Austrian schilling (10) | 88.941 |
| Italian lire (1000) | 63.947 |
| Japanese yen (100) | 169.42 |
| Irish pound | 95.729 |
| Spanish peseta (100) | 389.91 |
| Jordanian dinar | 25.920 |
| Lebanese lira | 125.54 |
| Egyptian pound | |

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|--|-------------------|
| CURRENCY BASKET | PURCHASE SALE |
| "DOLLAR PAZ" 1 UNIT | 450.4871 456.1084 |
| "EURO PAZ" 1 UNIT | 526.9049 533.4798 |
| "S.D.R." | 151.9914 153.8879 |

FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES FOR 12.3.84

| COUNTRY | CURRENCY | CHEQUES AND TRANSACTIONS | BANKNOTES |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| | | PURCHASE SALE | PURCHASE SALE |
| U.S.A. | DOLLAR | 143.9789 144.7721 | 141.7300 146.7600 |
| GREAT BRITAIN | STERLING | 207.8758 210.4697 | 206.0300 213.3600 |
| GERMANY | MARK | 54.8371 55.5214 | 54.3900 56.2800 |
| FRANCE | FRANC | 17.8200 18.0424 | 17.0400 18.2900 |
| HOLLAND | GUILDEN | 48.6684 49.2757 | 48.2300 49.9500 |
| SWITZERLAND | FRANC | 66.3670 67.1952 | 65.7700 |
| SWEDEN | KRONA | 18.4298 18.6586 | 18.0300 18.9100 |
| NORWAY | KRONE | 19.0194 19.2567 | 18.6000 19.5200 |
| DENMARK | KRONE | 15.0034 15.1896 | 14.6700 15.4000 |
| FINLAND | MARK | 25.8839 26.7007 | 24.8300 26.0500 |
| CANADA | DOLLAR | 112.0331 113.4311 | 110.1500 114.9900 |
| AUSTRALIA | DOLLAR | 136.9997 138.4054 | 130.6100 141.5700 |
| SOUTH AFRICA | RAND | 119.0375 120.5239 | 100.2900 127.3100 |
| BELGIUM | FRANC | 78.8209 79.6101 | |
| AUSTRIA | SCHILLING | 88.4801 89.3759 | 77.1800 79.9300 |
| ITALY | LIRE | 63.5017 64.3416 | 62.9800 65.2700 |
| JAPAN | YEN | | |

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| Closing price | Volume | Change | % change |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|----------|
| Commercial Banks | | | |
| (not part of "arrangement") | | | |
| O.H.P. r | 2020 | — | — |
| Maritime O.I. | 763 | 2003 | -38 |
| Maritime O.S. | 274 | 1924 | -36 |
| N. American | 161 | 207 | -46 |
| N. American | 4897 | 563 | -70 |
| N. Am. op | 4182 | 563 | -49 |
| Danot 1 | 611 | 156 | -55 |
| Danot 5 | 128 | 3101 | -5 |
| Danot 2 | 531 | — | -17 |
| First Int'l O.S. | 480 | 881 | -43 |
| FIBI O.S. | 280 | 3847 | -24 |

| Closing price | Volume | Change | % change |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|----------|
| Commercial Banks | | | |
| (part of "arrangement") | | | |
| IDB r | 127850 | — | — |
| IDB r | 5445 | 955 | -260 |
| IDB r | 5700 | 3 | -1 |
| IDB p | 33500 | — | -21 |
| Leumi O.I. | 4265 | 505 | -70 |
| Leumi O.S. | 4075 | 290 | -150 |
| Discount B r | 7000 | 13 | -45 |
| Discount B r | 7000 | 410 | -305 |
| Discount B r | 6030 | 146 | n.c. |
| Discount B r | 250 | 158 | -30 |
| Mizrahi r | 250 | 127 | -30 |
| Mizrahi r | 4250 | 47 | -38 |
| Mizrahi op | 1125 | 34 | -85 |
| Mizrahi op | 1125 | 34 | n.c. |
| Mizrahi op | 10055 | 5 | n.c. |
| Mizrahi op | 10055 | 124 | n.c. |
| Hapoelim r | 3685 | 1928 | -110 |
| Hapoelim r | 3685 | 142 | -35 |
| Hapoelim r | 14000 | 1 | n.c. |
| General op | 1000 | 6.5 | n.c. |
| General op | 22531 | 1 | n.c. |
| General op | 9840 | 103 | -12.2 |
| General op | 7690 | 2 | n.c. |
| General op | 470 | 34 | n.c. |
| Leumi O.I. | 2355 | 2233 | -90 |
| Leumi O.S. | 2355 | 2233 | -90 |
| Leumi O.S. | 424 | 214 | n.c. |
| Finance Trade | 12300 | 50 | -38 |
| Finance Trade | 1260 | 28 | -120 |

| Closing price | Volume | Change | % change |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|----------|
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| (part of "arrangement") | | | |
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| Leumi O.S. | 424 | 214 | n.c. |
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| Closing price | Volume | Change | % change |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|----------|
| Commercial Banks | | | |
| (part of "arrangement") | | | |
| IDB r | 127850 | — | — |
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| IDB p | 33500 | — | -21 |
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| Leumi O.S. | 4075 | 290 | -150 |
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| Discount B r | 7000 | 410 | -305 |
| Discount B r | 6030 | 146 | n.c. |
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| Mizrahi op | 10055 | 5 | n.c. |
| Mizrahi op | 10055 | 124 | n.c. |
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| General op | 1000 | 6.5 | n.c. |
| General op | 22531 | 1 | n.c. |
| General op | 9840 | 103 | -12.2 |
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| Leumi O.I. | 2355 | 2233 | -90 |
| Leumi O.S. | 2355 | 2233 | -90 |
| Leumi O.S. | 424 | 214 | n.c. |
| Finance Trade | 12300 | 50 | -38 |
| Finance Trade | 1260 | 28 | -120 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|------|-------|
| Jaysour 1 | 355 | 217 | -10 | -3.1 |
| Jaysour 5 | 300 | 139 | -5 | -1.6 |
| Jaysour op | 181 | 407 | -38 | -17.4 |
| Mervar r | 400 | 2140 | -44 | -0.9 |
| Financial Institutions | | | | |
| Shilton r | 214 | 1263 | -8 | -3.6 |
| Shilton op B | 1620 | 7 | n.c. | — |
| Agriculture A | 14000 | — | — | — |
| Leumi Ind r | 12330 | — | -80 | -6 |
| Leumi Ind r | 1457 | 285 | -33 | -2.2 |
| Leumi Ind r | 1410 | 10 | -33 | -2.2 |
| Dev Mortgage B | 1405 | 3 | -945 | -10.0 |
| Dev Mortgage B | 35700 | — | -60 | -2 |
| Dev Mortgage C | 21000 | — | -500 | -2.4 |
| Dev Mortgage C | 21000 | 1 | -400 | -1.9 |
| Dev Mortgage D | 25028 | — | — | — |

Ari Rath
Editor and
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THE JERUSALEM
POST

Erwin Frenkel
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Godfathers at Lausanne

OUTWARDLY the second round of the Lebanon conciliation conference, which opened at Lausanne last night, seems a replay of the inconclusive first round, held in Geneva last November. The same people grappling with the same problems by the shores of the same Swiss lake, while back home in Beirut the violence continues.

In fact though there are fundamental differences, the actors are the same, but their parts have radically changed since November.

Then, Syria's Abdel Halim Khaddam fought vigorously, but fruitlessly, to have the Lebanon-Israel agreement of May 17 abrogated. Now, with the agreement dead and buried, Syria's role at the conference was best demonstrated by the conferees' deferential postponement of the proceedings yesterday until Khaddam, now a vice-president, deigned to arrive.

Among the Lebanese protagonists, too, things are very different now. The Druze and the Shi'ites have achieved impressive military successes in the months since November. Their military aims have been realized. There is a sense of finality in the present military balance. Now they seek to translate their military strength into political power, at the expense of the Christians.

Off-stage, things are different too. In Geneva, Israel was hovering in the wings. All the actors were conscious of its presence. Now, the last of Israel's illusory ambitions to play a part in internal Lebanese politics, that ancient tragedy, has been shattered. Give it its security requirements and Israel will be glad to leave the benighted land.

What remains to be seen is how this very different script will be acted out once the play resumes. Just as the roles have changed so have relationships, and interests too.

The first tensions have already appeared between Syria and its client communities, the Shi'ites and the Druze. No longer does Damascus hold out unwavering support for these two groups' sectoral ambitions. Syria now, having established itself as the dominant influence over the country, may no longer want the country to be riven by hoary confessional struggles.

Within the victorious opposition camp itself frictions are surfacing. To the Shi'ites, spread as they are throughout the country, with poor access to Lebanon's centres of material wealth, the concept of cantonization is anathema. For the Druze, on the other hand, concentrated compactly in their mountain fastnesses, the idea seems attractive — provided they can obtain an avenue to the sea.

None of these issues, and certainly not the profound, perennial divide between Christians and Moslems, will be resolved in three days at the lake-side. But that is not to say that the conference, and all the massive security surrounding it, are inevitably in vain.

The very proximity of all the main protagonists under the same roof, apparently unachievable at home, promises at least a blunting of the edges of their mutual hostility.

In practical terms the conference will be judged a success if it can embark on the creation of a national unity government and the selection of a statesman acceptable to all sides to head it.

Once such a government is in place, and the cease-fire holding, the long and necessarily arduous process of constitutional reform can go forward.

THE TEL AVIV Stock Exchange

has been called the "Great Casino". Clearly, the implication is that the shares are not traded on the basis of conventional financial criteria but are snapped up and sold as one would flip chips on a roulette table. But the allusion to the Israeli investor as being a gambler is not really accurate.

It may be argued that due to the tension created by six wars the average Israeli is more likely to take investment risks than others in the Western world. However, fundamentally, the average Israeli has more than a bit of the "squirrel" instinct and he ranks high amongst the world's major savers. Over the years the average annual rate of savings has been in the order of 17 per cent of available income.

In the past two years the Israeli capital market has seen some extraordinary ups and downs. In 1982 share prices were up by some 70 per cent in real terms. During the year shares rose by hundreds of percentage points and small fortunes were changed into large fortunes.

New faces appeared on the capital market and this included the Rieger Fishmann Group whose mutual funds outdistanced those of the major banks.

At the end of the year the market place was in a near frenzy and portfolios advanced daily by up to 10 per cent or more. 1983 began on a nervous note and towards the end of the third week of January began what was termed as the great market collapse. In the course of a

Antiquated market

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN

few short months share prices fell in some cases by 80-90 per cent from their 1982 highs.

OCTOBER 6 marked the collapse of the bank shares and with it an era of some 11 years, during which banks had been stabilizing the prices of their shares.

The method of stabilization as instituted in 1979 by Bank Hapoalim was an important tool which allowed the bank shares to give above average returns, and as a result to raise substantial sums of money with which to fuel the bank's rapid growth.

What was good for Hapoalim became good for the other banks. Israelis and foreign residents alike understood that the bank share market was a fictitious one and they took advantage of the "rigging" of prices.

A closer look at the Israeli capital market will convince any objective individual that it is not the players who are primarily responsible for sharply rising markets or rapidly falling ones, or for the bank share collapse. In reality it is the system which is at fault and which requires a complete overhaul.

On the New York Stock Exchange trading is controlled by

"specialists." These individuals are required by stock exchange regulations to "stabilize" prices of the shares for which they are responsible. However, in New York terminology stabilization implies that the specialist must buy for his own account when the public is selling and conversely must sell from his own account when the public is buying. He is required at all times to keep a minimal number of shares so that he can carry out the stabilization function in an orderly manner.

In Israel there are no specialists to carry out orderly trading. If there is an excess of "buy" orders and not enough sellers, a share is established as "buyers only". As a result of this designation the shares are not traded but the price is automatically hiked by 5 per cent. The same system is applied if there is an influx of "sell" orders. A security may be established as "sellers only" or "buyers only" for two trading sessions and subsequently trading is carried out without any price limitation.

It is this antiquated system which leads to the situation where in the course of three trading sessions, shares could lose as much as 80 per cent of their value. It is not the

public which creates these speculative conditions but the system.

ISRAEL HAS the benefit of a broad and embracing legal system, but what makes it far from perfect is the lack of ability to enforce the law.

This is equally true for minor traffic offences and for financial violations. The management of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange on more than one occasion has investigated irregularities in the trading of a given security and has passed on a request to the Securities Authority for a further investigation with recommendation for action if necessary. One often has the impression that most of the recommendations of in-depth investigation somehow get buried in the archives of the Securities Authority.

A case in point: in 1983 while the market was falling precipitously, the shares of Binayon Mortgage climbed by some 1800 per cent. The management of the stock exchange asked the Securities Authority for a full investigation into possible irregularities. This was some six months ago and until today nothing has been heard about the findings.

If one wants to look a little further all one has to do is to watch the "stabilization practices" of the Bank of Israel which polices the government index-linked bond market.

It is clear that there is little difference between the stabilizing of the index-linked bonds and the stabilization of the bank shares. The question is: what will happen if the Bank of Israel is not prepared to maintain a high level of prices for index-linked bonds? If the central bank stops buying will the index-linked bond market collapse?

Still to be resolved is the propriety of the banks' role as securities advisor, investor for own account, and underwriter of securities, in most cases for its own customers.

Investment advisers are still not licensed and anyone can give that title himself.

Recently, a cabinet minister called the stock market a "casino" implying that the public was not behaving rationally. But is there evidence points to a reasonable public and to an unreasonable system?

If the system were changed perhaps some of the roller-coaster excitement would go, but a new one would dawn which will serve the two major aims: raising capital for industry and offering an orderly secondary market.

The writer reports regularly on the stock market in The Jerusalem Post.

The Kremlin weakness

By MIKHAIL AGURSKY

mechanism of political nominations which is the heart of the Soviet system.

Although he was a party secretary before 1967, he was responsible for the Communist bloc countries and therefore influential in Eastern Europe but not in the USSR.

Konstantin Chernenko was not able to secure the appointment in 1982. So why was he successful a year and a half later, when many Brezhnev and Chernenko people were purged and forcibly retired?

A close colleague, Nikolai Shcheblov, the former minister of internal affairs, was purged. A key political personality, Georgy Pavlov, who was director-general of the Central Party Committee, was pensioned off. Chernenko himself lost a key position, the general department of the Central Party Committee which is the channel through which the Politburo communicates with the central party apparatus.

THE CHERNENKO camp was weakened substantially this last year. There are several new focuses of power in the Soviet political system, notably a military-political coalition led by Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov. But no coalition was strong enough to achieve absolute majority rule.

In such conditions Chernenko, old and sick and with diminished political power emerged as the consensus choice between rival groups. What made him acceptable to his colleagues and secured him the position of party secretary-general was his relative political weakness.

The General Department was given to Klavdy Bogolubov, the former Chernenko first deputy. This 75-year-old apparition has been working in the central party apparatus since 1944, long before Chernenko, and represents the rival coalition. Thus, in the Soviet system of checks and balances Chernenko is

neutralized by other Politburo members, by other coalitions.

No Chernenko era is expected, in spite of all the official awards he is receiving in line with his official position.

Just as with the Andropov nomination, Chernenko's election has not ended the political struggle in the Kremlin. It has only aggravated it. It is pretty clear that his power has strict physical limitations and will probably last no more than two years, especially in view of the next party congress, which must be held in 1986.

BUT THE REAL significance of Chernenko's nomination will be seen very soon. At the first new Supreme Soviet session, to be held in spring, protocol dictates that acting Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov, who is almost 80 years old, retire. If a stronger person gets the position of prime minister, Chernenko will be even weaker than before. If Tikhonov remains prime minister, it will mean a complete political impasse in the Kremlin.

Another vacant position is that of president. The ease with which Andropov secured this position in June 1983 can now be explained by his sickness and his colleagues' unwillingness to strengthen another candidate.

The same pattern might be repeated with Chernenko. But it is not impossible that someone else will be appointed president; it was probably part of the package deal in which Chernenko was appointed secretary-general.

There were many signs of violent struggle among Soviet leaders after the Chernenko nomination. Only a day after Andropov's funeral, Alexander Tokarev, the minister of industrial construction, was compulsorily retired at only 63.

Tokarev was intimately connected with a new Politburo member, Vitaly Vorotnikov. In fact, he was his

boss in Kuibyshev before 1967. The link is ambivalent, and nobody knows what kind of relationship was. So the retirement might equally have been a sign of Vorotnikov's strength or of his weakness.

Several days later, Marshal Pavel Batitsky, until 1978 commander-in-chief of the Soviet air defence system, died. Batitsky was a full member of the Central Party Committee and protocol required that his obituary be signed by the entire leadership. In spite of this, only five Politburo members signed, and there wasn't a single deputy Politburo member or party secretary among them.

This indicates controversy among the leadership. Another "young" member of the Soviet elite was Mahmud Kholov, Tadzhik president and a Soviet deputy president, was retired at the age of 64.

The political significance of the move probably lies in the fact that Kholov was a former political chief of Semenov Tsiganov, who mysteriously died in January 1982 and opened the road to power for Andropov.

Tsiganov was very close to Chernenko and Brezhnev and was Andropov's deputy in the KGB, between 1957 and 1963 he served KGB head in Tadzhikistan, and gained influence there. The first deputy secretary of Tadzhikistan, Dzhabar Rasulov also died mysteriously soon after Tsiganov, and now it is Kholov's turn to retire.

THERE ARE curious signs of civil efforts to revive abroad the long standing accusation against Chernenko that he probably personally participated in massacres during 1938 purges. The accusation was published in the *Chicago Sun Times* in June 1979, then carried by the *New York Post* and *Der Spiegel*.

Whatever is happening in the Kremlin, one thing is clear: four members of the leadership are old and unlikely to survive the next two or three years. This has tremendous implications and will probably lead to a far-reaching destabilization of the Soviet political system and to a real changeover of generations.

The writer is a member of Soviet and East European Research Centre at the Hebrew University.

POLITICAL CRISIS

is regarded as being an exclusive feature of the parliamentary political system. The concept is not usually applied in the USSR.

Nevertheless, during the last few years, dating back to Brezhnev, there has been a deep political crisis among the Soviet leadership.

The Soviet political system consists of several rival coalitions none of which has achieved dominance through political struggle. The close competition means that, for any group to gain supremacy, it has to resort to complicated bargaining. The emergence of a strongman is precluded by such conditions, since such a leader needs a political base which doesn't exist.

Leonid Brezhnev was a very sick man during his last years in power, but he was taken almost by force to all meetings and negotiations, where he sometimes slept. Whatever the reason for Yuri Andropov's sudden illness in the spring of 1983, he had been out of political life for almost a year.

Looking back at his appointment in November 1982, one can now say that the most decisive reason for his election was that he had no personal power base. As head of the KGB for 15 years, he had no access to the

READERS' LETTERS

MORTGAGE LINKAGE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I commend you for Dvora Ben Shaul's article, "Flat broke" (Magazine of March 2). However, I disagree that mortgages linked to the C.O.L. index, as compared to dollar-linked, are better "deals."

I began one year ago to pay off my 100 per cent linked mortgage and the first payment was 15 per cent of my salary. In March 1984, the payment was 40 per cent of my salary and, within the coming year (with the same rate of proportional increase), the payment will be over 100 per cent of my salary. At the end of my mortgage period (seven very lean years from now, if the same rate of increase is kept), 32,326 per cent of my salary will go to pay the last instalment of my mortgage.

The proposal mentioned by Minister of Housing David Levy to give longer mortgage periods (10-20 years) would return the payment to 20 per cent of a normal salary (considered a reasonable mortgage payment in most parts of the world), but for how long?

The government can spend millions of dollars to save the value of speculators' bank share investments. Isn't it long overdue to take away the 100 per cent linkage of mortgages, enabling those who "got these deals" to have food on their tables, clothes on their children, and remain happy citizens?

Jerusalem. STEFAN ROKEM

ISRAEL IRELAND FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — The Israel Ireland Friendship League is organizing a banquet to honour its most distinguished member, the President of the State of Israel.

All those interested in attending this affair should contact Richard Stein, at P.O.B. 2284, Netanya 42122, telephone 052-32760 (evenings). D. BIRKHAHN, Chairman, Israel Ireland Friendship League Jerusalem.

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LEBANON SUCCESSES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — The consequences of Israeli policy may be less than 100 per cent successful, but should not be completely discounted. Yet that is what you did in your editorial of February 10, when you called the Lebanese action "indeed, the only war that has not been a success at all."

Not at all! There are no PLO bases in Southern Lebanon from which Northern Israel can be shelled and from which terrorists can infiltrate across the border to destroy and kill. There are no longer PLO bases in Southern Lebanon to train not only their own terrorists, but others from all over the world to serve Russia. Though not by intent, Israel thus did a favour for the U.S. and the rest of the Western World. Though they were since replaced

by Russia, Syria suffered a severe defeat relative to missile sites, planes and tanks. Thus, the superiority of the IDF and its equipment was reaffirmed.

The above are significant successes. How long they will remain so is another matter. The current sorry state of Lebanon and revived Syrian domination of the country are failures of the war for which U.S. policy bears some responsibility. Sabra and Shatila, and Israeli support of the Gemayel-led Phalangists (only a small percentage of Lebanese Christians) represent Lebanese action failure. And there were some other failures of lesser significance in Lebanon.

LAWRENCE I. GOULD
Beachwood, Ohio.

DECLINE IN STANDARDS?

To the Jerusalem Post Editor

Sir, — The Jerusalem Post, in its second leader on March 4, decries the decline in our culture, citing the vigour of the popular press, the ignorance of high school graduates and the illiteracy of recruits in the army as indices of its degradation.

The high schools accept more students and more students complete the four-year course than formerly was the case. This reflects greater affluence in Israel. It is hardly surprising that average achievement scores have declined, as many less talented students are now included in the sample being tested.

The army is twice as large as it was in 1967, and its chronic shortage of manpower has moved it to induct illiterates which it once would have rejected. Illiteracy is not new, but

the problem of illiteracy is — because today every soldier counts.

In the good old days, the popular press was restricted because its natural readership was illiterate, semi-competent in Hebrew and poor. Except for *Ha'aretz*, most of the country's newspapers were the organs of parties, which were interested less in gaining new readers than in indoctrinating those they already had. It was almost impossible to make money from publishing a paper because it was almost impossible to make money in the free market at all.

Is The Post unhappy about the change towards a freer press, on the one hand, and a more democratic cultural regime, on the other?

PHILIP ROSS
Jerusalem.

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POSTSCRIPTS

WITH A NAME like David Kelley, the "first Jew ever to run for the American presidency" is aiming to attract the votes not only of his co-religionists but also of the Irish and whoever else might be attracted to his odd platform.

Kelley, 59, lived in Israel for nine years, until 1971, when he returned to Cleveland to care for his ageing father. A Republican, he was entered in the New Hampshire primary against President Reagan.

According to a new release from his home in Tennessee's Smoky Mountains, Kelley observes Shabbat and *kashrut* but is a Reform Jew. He campaigns as "the last Confederate soldier," and a campaign photo shows him in a Confederate Army cap and long hair and beard.

His platform includes support for unilateral nuclear disarmament, a balanced federal budget, an end to federal income tax and "shipping Negroes back to Africa." He is also writing a book on economics and says he hopes to return to Israel someday.

J.S.I.

NO ONE has so far taken up The Jerusalem Post's advertised suggestion for beating inflation — putting "flocinauinehilipilification" in a classified ad, for the cost of one word. But a reader has written to say that the post office is less generous in this respect. He informs us that the post office treats anything over 10 letters in a telegram as more than one word. Flocinauinehilipilification in fact would count as three words.

G.D.M.

ENGLISH-SPEAKING consumers are bound to be confused by the label on a tinned product from the Noon factory, "Hot Turkey Salad." The product is neither turkey nor murky. It is, according to the Hebrew label, a spicy Turkish-style salad, and the ingredients include no meat at all, just vegetables and spices. When will people who order printed signs, menus and labels go to the trouble of checking the spelling?

M.M.

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